三家本礼

② REIKO the ZOMBIE SHOP

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CHARACTER INTRODUCTION

REIKO HIMEZONO

AGE: 17

OCCUPATION: ZOMBIE SHOP

A "ZOMBIE SHOP" is a necromancer-for-hire, usually employed by bereaved families to resurrect departed loved ones for a short time so that the dead may impart their final truths to the living. Reiko was employed by the police to help them solve a string of brutal serial murders. During the investigation, Reiko was violently beheaded by the perpetrator, SAKI YURIKAWA ...

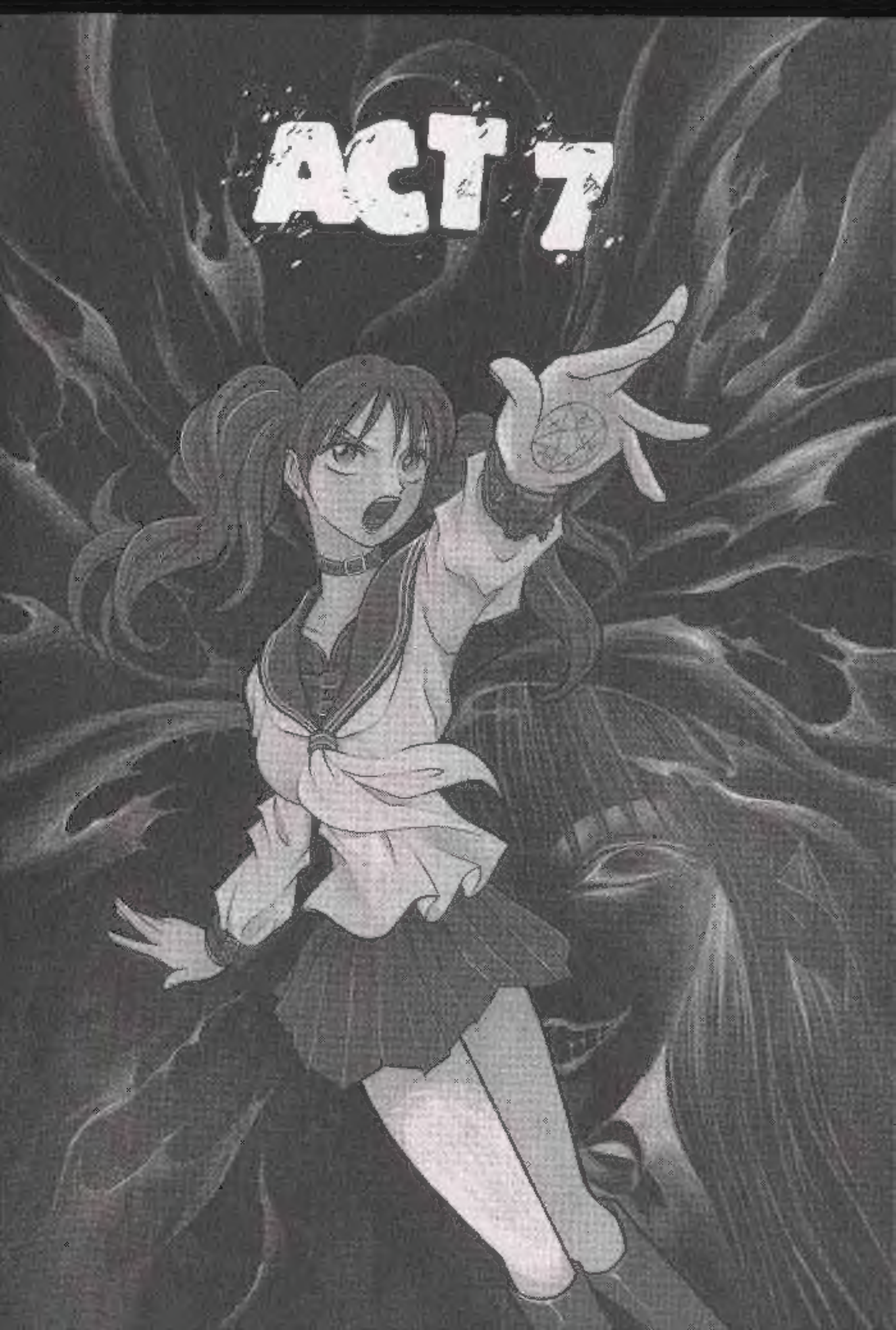
SAKI YURIKAWA

SERIAL KILLER

Responsible for the murders of twenty-nine little girls in the town of Shiraike. REIKO HIMEZONO exposed Saki as the killer, only to be brutally slain by Yurikawa's hand. Luckily, Reiko was able to "zombify" herself before death and, in her undead state, was able to defeat Saki and cast her into the depths of hell ...

To find out exactly what happened, check out volume one of *Reiko, the Zombie Shop*, on sale now!

ACT 7



LOOKS LIKE SOME-ONE'S TRYING TO *BLOCK* THE ROAD...

... AND IF THEY'RE TRYING TO *GET IN OUR* WAY...

WH-WHADDA WE HAVE HERE... *RYOKA AMANO* AND *RUDOH MISHIMA* ...

...YOU TWO BRATS HAVE *NO* IDEA WHAT YOU'RE GETTING INTO.

IT'S TIME TO GET SERI-OUS!

I'M ALWAYS READY.

RUDOH, GET READY.

SHOW THEM NO MERCY!

CAREFUL, RUDOH!!

RYOKA! I'LL HOLD HIM BACK!! YOU GO FIND HIS "PUPPE-TEER"!!

AND NOW I WILL GATHER YOUR *SOULS* TO FULFILL THE MASTER'S AMBITION!!

THOU THAT RULE OVER HELL, GRANT ME THE CONTROL OF ONE OF YOUR UNDEAD LIEGE!!

OH, SATAN, LORD OF DEMONS!!

IT SEEMS AS THOUGH YOU HAVE IMPROVED AS A SUMMONER!!

YOU SHOULD BE PROUD OF YOURSELF, RAISING ONE LIKE THAT!!

YET ANOTHER REASON WHY I REALLY MUST KILL YOU!!

HEE HEE

GENERAL ROBIN DAVIS
Died in battle during the "War of the Roses" in 1455.

OH, SATAN, LORD OF DEMONS, LEND NOW TO ME YOUR POWER!!

AND IF YOU WOULDN'T MIND, PLEASE DON'T SEND THE USUAL WALKING BONEBAG!!

BUT, SATAN, I SAID *PLEASE!!*

EEEEE!

*BA-DA-DA-D

THE ZOMBIE... IT'S RETURNING TO HELL!

LOOKS LIKE HIS "PUPPETEER" WAS INSIDE THAT CAR.

RYOKA, YOUR ZOMBIES ARE A LITTLE TOO *WILD!*

ズズ ズズ

ビク TWICK

YOU-- YOU TWO...

KOUSH-GLOKSHI

I NEVER SAID THAT MY BIRTH-BLESSED NECROMANTIC POWERS WERE A HUNDRED PERCENT.

BUT I REALLY DO NEED TO WORK ON SUMMONING A MORE *OBEDIENT* ZOMBIE.

AND THAT'S WHY WE HAVE TO GET THE AID OF "THAT GIRL."

TRUST ME... WE KNOW.

...DO YOU HAVE *ANY* IDEA WHAT IT MEANS TO BETRAY THE MASTER?

JUST BECAUSE YOU TWO HALF-RATE SUMMONERS MANAGED TO ACCIDENTALLY STOP ME -- *KURODA* -- DON'T THINK THAT YOU CAN THWART THE MASTER'S AMBITION!

REIKO HIMEZONO.

SHE, REIKO HIMEZONO, IS OUR ONLY CHANCE TO STOP THE MASTER AND HIS MINIONS FROM FULFILLING THEIR AMBITION...

Shinshiba Eiyo Hospital

HEY! NEW BOY! I DON'T KNOW HOW LONG YOU'LL LAST HERE, BUT—

IT'S REALLY NOT ALL THAT BAD! YOU GET PAID TO POKE THINGS DOWN WITH A STICK!

YES, SIR.

TO BE HONEST, I'M JUST HAPPY TO BE WORKING.

TRANSLATOR'S NOTE: The interesting thing about this scene is that this was taken from a Japanese urban myth. There is a myth that there was a high-paying part time job at a certain hospital where one was paid merely to keep dead bodies under the surface of a formaldehyde pool by poking them with a stick. They had no limit of ten and are mainly bumped together until services could be procured. As this is merely an urban myth, the exact location of the hospital, as well as small details pertaining to the job, will vary from place to place.

RI— RIGHT!

GET DOWN, YOU!

WATCH WHAT YOU'RE DOING! IF ANY OF THE BITS FLOAT UP FROM THE FORMALDEHYDE, YOU HAVE TO GET THEM BACK UNDER, QUICK!

EVEN THE SLIGHTEST EXPOSURE TO AIR ACCELERATES THEIR DECAY.

YEAH, THAT ONE JUST CAME IN.

SIR, A-A HEAD!!

HEEE!!

ACCORDING TO THE POLICE, SHE WAS AN ORPHAN WITH NO NEXT-OF-KIN OR FAMILY.

APPARENTLY SHE HAD AN OLDER SISTER AT A DIFFERENT ORPHANAGE, BUT SHE DISAPPEARED LONG AGO.

THAT ONE DIED RIGHT IN THIS HOSPITAL.

I HEARD THE SCENE OF HER DEATH WAS A TOTAL BLOOD-BATH.

THE SHIRAIKE SERIAL SLASHER -- YOU KNOW THE ONE THAT WAS KILLING ALL THOSE LITTLE GIRLS -- WELL, REIKO WAS EMPLOYED BY THE POLICE TO FIND THE PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR THOSE MURDERS, AND SHE CAME TO THE HOSPITAL.

AND ACCORDING TO RUMOR, SHE MADE THE DEAD TALK! AND FROM THERE, THEY WERE ABLE TO DETERMINE WHO WAS SLASHING ALL THOSE GIRLS.

BUT THE [KILLER,] SAKI YURIKAWA, WAS IN THE HOSPITAL, AND THE OWNER OF THAT HEAD AND HER WENT TOE-TO-TOE.

AND THE TWO OF THEM FOUGHT UNTIL THERE WAS PRETTY MUCH NOTHING LEFT OF THE OTHER

YOU SERIOUS, SIR? DEAD TALK? LIKE *ZOMBIES?

RUMORS, SON, RUMORS! FORGET ABOUT IT -- LET'S JUST DO OUR WORK.

WHAT THE--?

WHOA THERE! THIS ISN'T THE KIND OF PLACE FOR A GIRL LIKE YOU!

CLACK

CLACK

OUT OF MY WAY, IF YOU PLEASE. I HAVE NO BUSINESS WITH YOU.

THIS AIN'T NO MUSEUM FOR GOTH FREAKS OR DEAD OBSESSED!

ONLY THE MASTER MAY TOUCH ME.

CLACK

DIDN'T YOU HEAR—

YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO SEE ME, ROSES KILLMISTER, UPSET.
PLEASE, KEEP IT DOWN.

WAAAH!!

BUT IT'S STILL TOO EARLY TO RELAX.

YOU DYING IN BATTLE IS FORTUNE THAT WE COULDN'T *EVEN* HAVE WISHED FOR.

REIKO HIME-ZONO.

OH, REIKO, YOU KNOW THE MASTER CONSIDERS YOU A *PEST.*

SO, I HAVE TO MAKE SURE YOU'RE CREMATED PROPERLY

THE MASTER SAID THAT THERE MIGHT BE A CHANCE THAT YOU'D HAVE ZOMBIFIED YOURSELF.

STOP RIGHT THERE, ROSES KILL-MISTER!!

!!

THWI

SHING

RYOKA AMANO!! THAT IMBECILE, KURODA, MUST HAVE FAILED!!

BA DA DA DA

BA DA DA DA

BA DA DA DA

BA DA DA DA

BUT—

YOU'LL BE MERE FODDER FOR MY ZOMBIE!!

PA-KIN

IF YOU'D JUST *JOIN* US, YOU COULD BE ON THE SIDE THAT WILL SOON RULE THE *WORLD!*

WHY? WHY MUST YOU *RESIST* ME?

RUDOH MISHIMA AND *RYOKA AMANO!!* WHAT PART AM I NOT MAKING CLEAR FOR YOU?!

THE MORE SERVANTS THE MASTER HAS, THE FASTER WE CAN CREATE CORPSES, AND THE SOONER THE WORLD WILL BE OURS!

ON THE SIDE OF THE MASTER THAT CAN SUMMON OBEDIENT, LOYAL ZOMBIES WITH THE MEREST OF INCANTATIONS!!

NOT INTER-ESTED!!

A WORLD BURIED IN *ZOMBIES*, HUH...?

I HAVE *HEARD* OF YOU, KILL-MISTER.

YOU HAVE TAKEN THOSE LIKE US -- THOSE THAT DEFY THE "MASTER" -- AND *EXECUTED* THEM.

I LOOK AT THE ZOMBIES YOU TWO SUMMON AND SEE NOTHING BUT HARMLESS *KITTENS*.

USING EVERY LITTLE BIT OF *STRENGTH* TO INEFFECTUALLY BITE AT ME.

WELL, WELL...

... IT SEEMS THAT YOU TWO *STILL* DON'T COMPREHEND WHAT I AM CAPABLE OF.

AFTER THAT, YOU'LL SERVE THE MASTER— AS A ZOMBIE!!

WELL, THEN, RUDOH, YOU'LL JUST HAVE TO DIE.

THAT'S WHY I'M NOT LETTING YOU LEAVE HERE IN ONE PIECE!!

?!

BLACK WIDOW, COMETH!!

WHA-WHAT THE *HELL* IS THAT?!

BLACK WIDOW
Shares the same name with the poisonous spider, the origin of the word being "the wives of dead are those that shall wear black"

GLORBO—

KEIDRICH, I *COMMAND* THEE!! FIRE--

RYOKA AMANO!

TIME TO DANCE WITH DEATH.

OH MY—

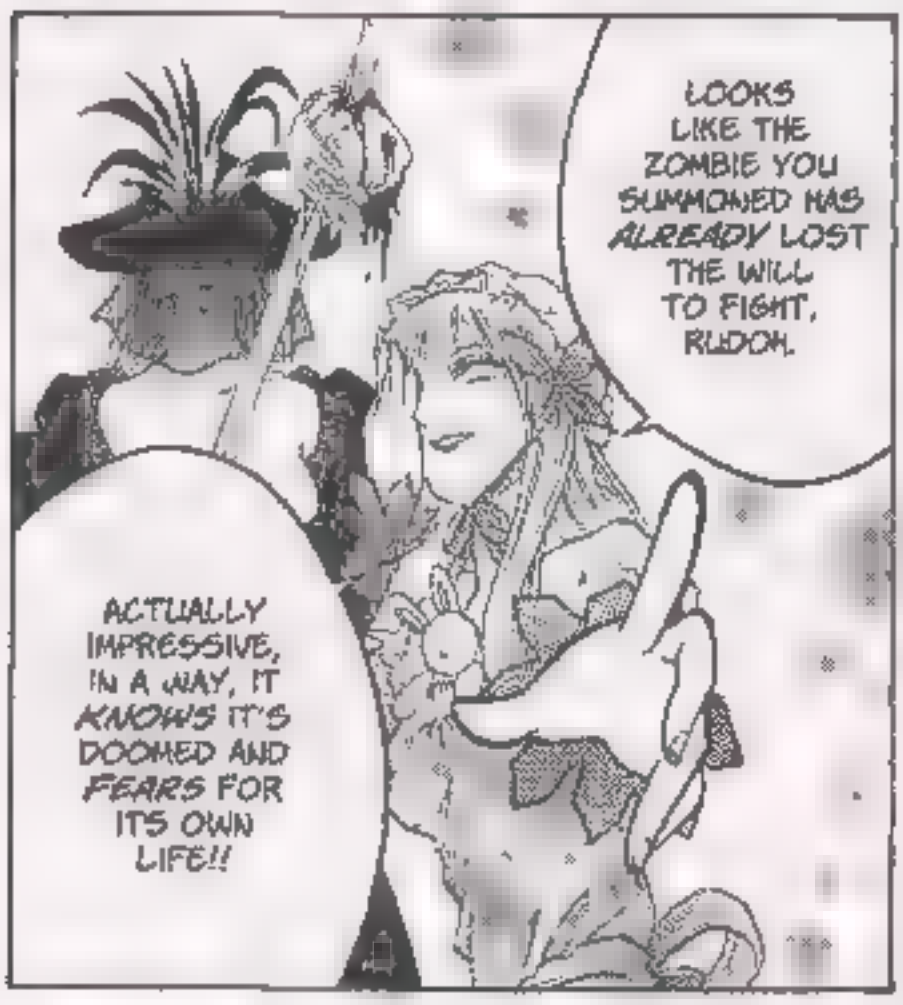
ビ" ビ" ビ"

AHH!

AHEH!

KAH!

RYOKAAAA!


LOOKS LIKE THE ZOMBIE YOU SUMMONED HAS *ALREADY* LOST THE WILL TO FIGHT, RUDOH.
ACTUALLY IMPRESSIVE, IN A WAY. IT *KNOWS* IT'S DOOMED AND *FEARS* FOR ITS OWN LIFE!!

WHOA — WHOAH!

AFTER I EXECUTE YOU. I'M GOING TO TAKE MY *TIME* CREMATING REIKO'S HEAD.
JUST IN CASE — AND I *MEAN* JUST IN CASE — SHE HASN'T COMPLETELY DIED.

!!

—ON THAT "JUST IN CASE"!!

I'LL BET EVERY-THING—

...

...!!

YOU SHALL ATONE FOR ANGERING ME WITH YOUR LIFE.

?!

WHAT THE—?!

HUH?

WH-
WHAT IS
THAT?!

THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!! WHO ON EARTH COULD HAVE SUMMONED IT?!

ANO-
THER
NECRO-
MANCER?
A SUMMO-
NER?!

ANOTHER ZOMBIE?! ATTACKING BLACK WIDOW?!

SAKI YURIKAWA

Saki was respons ble for t e deaths of 29 young g rls n the town of Sh raike Died in batt e wh le fight ng Reiko Hime, and c

IS SOMEBODY THERE?!

I SUGGEST YOU SHOW YOUR-SELF!!

WHAT'S GOING ON...? WHO ON EARTH COULD HAVE SAVED ME?

I DON'T KNOW ANYONE WHO COULD HAVE SUMMONED THAT ZOMBIE!

BLACK WIDOW!!

I CALLED THAT ONE UP, *FRESH* FROM HELL.

I DIDN'T EVER THINK THAT I WOULD BE SUMMONING AGAIN.

I HEARD EVERY-THING! THAT YOU HAD TO SAY.

INCLUDING THE "MASTER" YOU KEPT TALKING ABOUT.

THAT BODY — IT'S RYOKA'S HEADLESS CORPSE!!

YOU MEAN YOU *KNOW*?

YOU KNOW WHO THE "MASTER" *REALLY* IS?!

MY ONLY REGRET IS THAT *I* DIDN'T KILL HER!!

... SUMMONS FOR EVIL -- ZOMBIES ARE NOTHING MORE THAN *TOY SOLDIERS* TO FLING AT THOSE WHO WOULD *DARE* TO OPPOSE!!

IF WHAT I FEEL IS TRUE...

...THEN I KNOW THIS "MASTER" *QUITE* WELL.

ONE WHO POSSESSES *INCREDIBLE* SUMMONING ABILITIES, LIKE ME, YET...

BLACK WIDOW!! KILL HER!!

HOW *DARE* YOU ATTEMPT TO INSULT OUR MASTER?!

WHAT SAY YOU?!

BLACK WIDOW, RIGHT?

I FIGURED OUT THIS ONE'S WEAK-NESSES THE MOMENT IT APPEARED.

WHY DON'T YOU JUST *GIVE UP*?

KA-RACK

HER BODY'S HOLLOW?!

BLACK WIDOW — RETREAT!!

NOOO!!

CLORFF

COFF

IN ORDER TO KEEP THE POWER AND SPEED—

—YOU WOUND UP LOSING *ANY* PROTECTION HER ORGANS MIGHT HAVE AFFORDED!!

IN ORDER TO MAKE MORE ARMS YOU HAD TO *SACRIFICE* ORGANS AS YOU WANTED TO KEEP THE BODY LIGHT AT THE SAME TIME.

ｱﾏｰ

GAME OVER

YOUR ZOMBIE WON'T BE COMING BACK.

ONCE YOU PUNCH INTO THAT EMPTY BODY OF HERS—

—THE ONLY THING IN *THERE* IS THE SPINE!!

N-NOOO!! *BLACK WIDOW!!*

YOU'RE GOING TO *TELL ME* WHERE THE "MASTER" IS.

AND NOW... MS. KILLMISTER, WAS IT?

YOU --

BUT YOU FOOLS WILL BE THE FOUNDATION OF OVER-LORD'S AMBITION.

AND SHALL NOW MEET A BRUTAL DEATH!!

THE ONE WHO WILL FOLLOW IN MY FOOTSTEPS HAS ALREADY BEEN *CHOSEN.*

YOU'VE *GOT* TO BE KIDDING ME!!

HYAH HA HA!!

A-HA HA HA HA HA!!

I COULD BRING HER BACK AS A ZOMBIE.

BUT I WORRY ABOUT THIS ONE — SHE'D GO *CRAZY* ON US.

SHE USED HER *OWN* ZOMBIE TO KILL HERSELF!!

DO YOU KNOW WHY I WENT TO ALL THIS *TROUBLE* TO COME BACK?

RYOKA AMANO, RIGHT? I MEAN, THE BODY I NOW HAVE FROM THE NECK DOWN.

I SENSED AN "EVIL" INTENT— THE BLACKENED, EVIL INTENT OF THE MASTER!

AND, WOULD YOU, CARRY OUT THEIR VILE PLOT

THERE ARE THOSE WHO HAVE THE ABILITY TO MAKE EVIL OUT OF THE FACT THAT I DIED

I WAS A HEAD FLOATING IN A POOL, WITH NO BODY TO MOVE.

AND YET I PERCEIVED SUCH A *POWERFUL* INTENT

YOU ALREADY *KNEW* WHAT WAS HAPPENING... BEFORE RYOKA AND I SHOWED UP?

THERE ARE FEW -- EVEN AMONG SUMMONERS -- THAT KNOW WHO THE "MASTER" TRULY IS.

TELL ME WHO THE HELL *IS* THE "MASTER"?

I HATE TO ADMIT IT, BUT THE MASTER AND I HAVE SOMETHING IN *COMMON*.

BUT TO PUT IT ANOTHER WAY, IT WAS SOMETHING THAT COULD BE PERCEIVED *ONLY* BY ME.

--BUT KILLMISTER WAS ACTUALLY SOMEWHAT RESPONSIBLE FOR BRINGING RE:KO *BACK?*

SO, WHAT YOU'RE SAYING IS THIS?

NOT ONLY DID KURODA AND KILL-MISTER *FAIL—*

--WHICH IS THE *ONLY* THING I CAN COMMEND HER FOR.

I HEARD THAT KILL-MISTER *KILLED* HER-SELF—

BUT, I STILL DO NOT ENJOY BLAMING MY CHILDREN.

YOU NEEDN'T WORRY, OUR MASTER.

RIRUKA HIMEZONO.

SO YOU WILL BURY THOSE INFIDELS IN KURODA AND KILLMISTER'S HONOR.

I MUST PREEMP-TIVELY DESTROY ALL THOSE THAT WOULD THREATEN TO THWART MY AMBITION...

REIKO HIME-ZONO!

EVEN IF YOU ARE MY YOUNGER TWIN SISTER.

I CAN'T DENY THAT RIRUKA IS AN *EXCEPTIONAL* SUMMONER.

BUT I WILL *NEVER* PERMIT HER WICKED INTENTIONS TO COME TO FRUITION.

ACT 8

MASTER RIRUKA

I HAVE NO IDEA WHY YOU CONSIDER REIKO SUCH A THREAT TO YOU!

THE MOST DANGEROUS THING ABOUT REIKO ISN'T HER ABILITY AS A SUMMONER

YOUR PLAN OF DOMINATING THE WORLD WITH AN ARMY OF FAITHFUL ZOMBIES --

IT'S OUR "CONNECTION" AS TWINS.

-- IS HARDLY SOMETHING THAT REIKO HAS THE POWER TO STOP.

SO THEN, MASTER RIRUKA, COULDN'T YOU ALSO READ WHAT SHE IS THINKING?

SOMETHING ONLY A DAMNED TWIN CAN DO.

IT'S THE FACT THAT SHE CAN READ WHAT'S HAPPENING "HERE," ONLY IF EVEN TO A GENERAL EXTENT

...I CANNOT PERMIT HER TO PEER INTO MY HEAD.

I HAVE NO INTEREST IN DELVING INTO HER TRIFLING THOUGHTS.

HOW-EVER.

NOROTA, GO NOW!

PLAYING WITH YOUR FIGURES IS ALL FINE AND GOOD, BUT —

— GIVE A LIVING HUMAN PLAYMATE A TRY, TOO, EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE.

HEH

SHIRAIKE PRIVATE MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL

ONE CREAM BUN, OVER HERE!!

ONE STEAMED BUN, PLEASE!!

MISS! ONE CURRY BREAD AND MUFFIN WITH JAM, PLEASE!!

TOSS ME A SAND-WICH!!

WE'RE ALL OUT OF CURRY BREAD.

SORRY ABOUT THAT.

READ MY NOTE!! ♥

SO WHY DO THEY ONLY GET 30 CURRY MUFFINS A DAY? SHEESH.

...IF YOU ADD UP ALL THE STU-DENTS HERE, IT'S OVER FIFTEEN HUNDRED PEOPLE.

IT'S SUCH A CHORE TRYING TO GET EVEN ONE MUFFIN.

THERE'RE TOO MANY PEOPLE AT THIS SCHOOL. I SWEAR...

EMIKO, DID YOU GET WHAT YOU WANTED?

HEY!! IT'S REIKO!!

SHE HASN'T BEEN TO SCHOOL IN LIKE TEN DAYS!!

SORRY, GUYS.

HEY!! REIKO!!

DO YOU WANNA COME EAT WITH US?!

OUCH!!

SMACK!

SHE'S NOT HUH-GRYP!

SHE--

TWIRL

WHADDA YA KNOW!! REIKO -- REIKO KIMEZONO!!

OHHH

I CAN'T INVOLVE THOSE TWO.

I BEEN THINKIN' BOUTCHA SO MUCH I-I-I...

NOT HAVING YA AT SCHOOL'S LIKE HAVIN' A BUNCHA PORN MANGA WITH NO CHICKS IN 'EM

YA BEEN GONE FOR LIKE 10 DAYS!! I WAS WORRIED BOUTCHA!!

MY FLY WAS ABOUT TO BUST OPEN THE WHOLE TIME I WAS MAKING THIS!!

LOOK AT ALL DA DETAIL I PUT INTA THE CURVES ON YOUR THIGHS.

WHADDAYA THINK? NICE, RIGHT?!

...SCULPTED THIS FIGURE OF YA!!

GO-BEY

NOOO...!

CRACK!!!

KR-ACK!!!

KR-ACK!!!

HE

HE HE HE

IF YOU WANT TO HANG ALL OVER SOMEONE, PICK SOMEONE ELSE.

YOU'RE REALLY GETTING ON MY NERVES.

REIKO HIMEZONO.. SHE'S SO FINE - ESPECIALLY UP CLOSE.

BUT SHE ISN'T THE ONLY ONE I'M AFTA ♥

BUT THAT'S WHY I CAN'T LET YOU GET WRAPPED UP IN MY MESS.

...YOU TWO ARE SERIOUSLY MY ONLY FRIENDS.

SO SORRY, AZUSA AND EMIKO...

...I NEEDED TO SEE YOU --

-- IF ONLY TODAY

I HAVE SOMEONE I WANT TO INTRO --

LOOK, I'M SORRY--I KNOW THAT YOU HAVE TO DISTANCE YOURSELF FROM YOUR FRIENDS, BUT...

DAMN, MAN! I DIDN'T THINK SHE WAS THIS HOT!!

WHY WOULD SHE WASTE HER TIME HANGING AROUND SOME TOOL LIKE YOU?!

ONE OF HER PEONS, KURODA, ASKED US TO JOIN UP WITH THEM, BUT --

-- I DIDN'T LIKE THE WAY HE ASKED SO I HAD TO BEAT HIS ASS!

YUKI! QUIT SMOKIN' IN SCHOOL, ALL RIGHT?

DUDE! YOU'RE WORRIED ABOUT MY HEALTH?! RIRUKA'S TRYING TO KILL US ANYWAY!!

SO, ANYWAY, NICE TO MEET YOU!

NAME'S YUKI TOHDOH -- SECOND YEAR, CLASS "A."

I'M REIKO HIMEZONO.

BUT ACTUALLY, FROM THE NECK DOWN I'M --

!!

YOU THINK NOW THAT YOU'VE GOT A NEW BODY, YOU'LL JUST START A NEW LIFE, HUH?! GIMME A FUCKIN' BREAK!!

YUKI, CHILL!!

YOU TWO ASSHOLES!! DID YA EVER THINK ABOUT RYOKA?!

YOU TOO, RUDOH!! YOU'D DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO GET REIKO ON YOUR SIDE, RIGHT?! YOU'RE JUST AS BAD AS HER!!

DO YOU REALLY THINK THAT I WOULD GROUP-UP WITH A PSYCHO FREAK LIKE YOU?

THAT'S *RYOKA AMANO'S* BODY, RIGHT?! I'VE HEARD ALL 'BOUT IT!!

REMEMBER A WHILE BACK, WHEN I TOLD YOU THAT THERE WAS A SUMMONER IN THE MIDDLE SCHOOL THAT I SAID COULD HELP US?

BUT, I ALSO SAID THAT THERE WAS NO WAY I WANTED TO GET THAT PERSON INVOLVED — NOW YOU KNOW WHY?

IT'S 'CAUSE I DON'T LIKE YOUR WHOLE "FRIENDS COME AND DIE, BUT WE KEEP MOVING" ATTITUDE.

NO

THE REAL REASON YOU WANT MORE PEOPLE IS BECAUSE YOU'RE SO SCARED OF RIRUKA, RIGHT? YOU FIGURE, THE MORE PEOPLE THERE ARE AROUND YOU --

-- THE LESS CHANCE YOU HAVE OF BEING PICKED-OUT AND KILLED, RIGHT, RUDOH?

NO, AND THE REALITY IS THAT YOU'RE ALIVE AND RYOKA'S DEAD!!

JUST TO LET YOU KNOW, I'M NOT LIKE YOU. I CAN AND WILL DO THIS MYSELF.

THAT'S WHY I CAME HERE -- TO LET YOU KNOW THAT

LATER

WE STILL HAVE 30 MINUTES UNTIL LUNCH IS OVER.

I THINK YOU SHOULD ALL COME TO MY HOUSE.

THERE'S SOMETHING YOU SHOULD SEE, INSIDE THE FRIDGE.

SOME-THING I REALLY WANT TO SHOW YOU.

RY—
RYOKA?!

SLAM

THAT IS WHAT I THOUGHT, BUT ACTUALLY...

I AM JUST TWO DEAD BODIES PIECED TOGETHER RIGHT NOW. NOT ONLY AM I DEAD, BUT ROTTING BY THE SECOND.

I AM HARDLY ROTTING — I BREATHE, I EAT, I HAVE TO USE THE RESTROOM, AND I HAVE MY PERIOD.

BOTH MY HEAD AND BODY HAVE FULLY RECOVERED — AND ARE NOW FUNCTIONING AS A SINGLE LIVING ENTITY.

WHAT THE HELL?! HER HEAD?!

WHAT THE HELL IS WRONG WITH YOU, REIKO!!

HER HEART HADN'T STOPPED BEATING!!

THE ONLY REASON THAT I HAVE THIS BODY IS BECAUSE I WAS ABLE TO ATTACH MY HEAD SECONDS AFTER RYOKA WAS DECAPITATED!!

MY POINT IS THAT IT'S JUST WHAT I THOUGHT WOULD HAPPEN!!

SO, WHAT THE HELL'S YOUR POINT?

YOU'RE CRAZY!!

SO, YUKI, MY "POINT" IS THAT, GIVEN THOSE CIRCUMSTANCES, IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO BRING BACK RYOKA.

ONCE WE HAVE DESTROYED RIRUKA, I'LL RETURN RYOKA'S BODY TO HER, AND BRING HER BACK AS SHE WAS.

I, ON THE OTHER HAND, WILL RETURN TO DEATH'S EMBRACE.

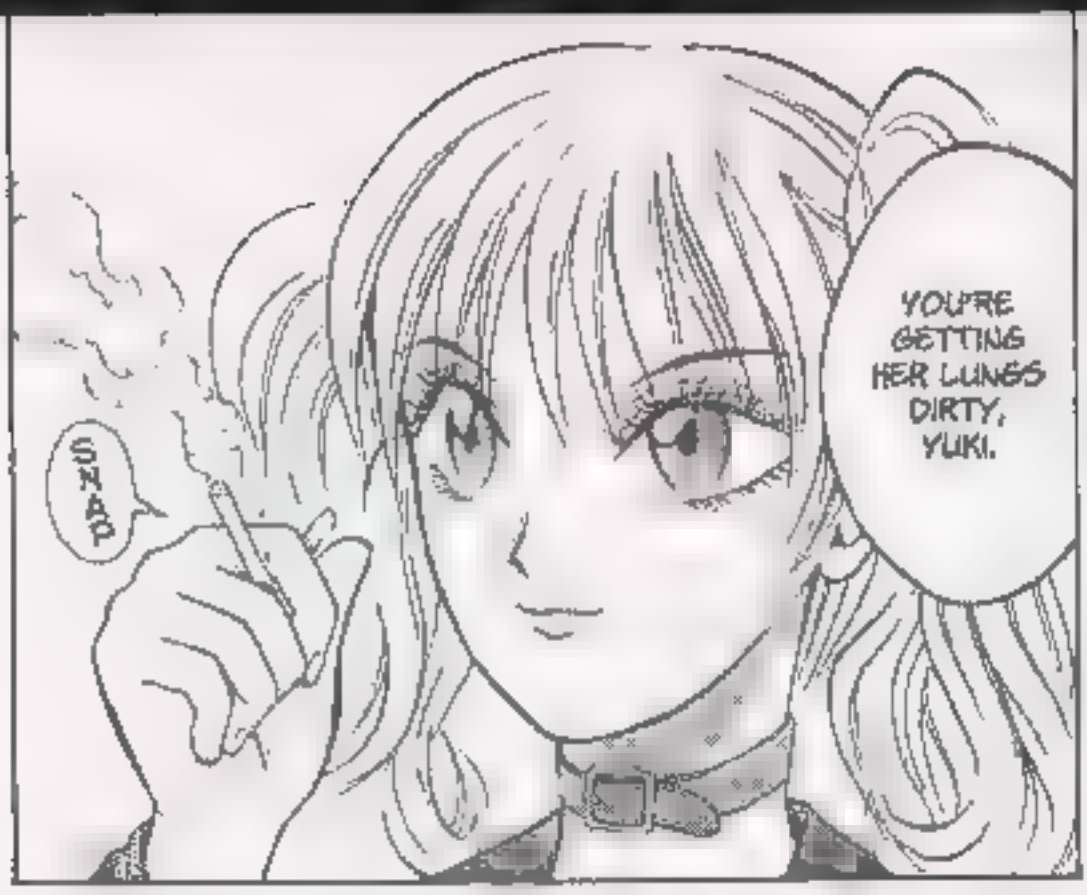
AND I WILL NOT PERMIT ANY HARM TO COME TO HER BODY WHILE I BORROW IT.

IN OTHER WORDS, I'M JUST "BORROWING" THIS BODY FROM RYOKA, AS IT WERE.

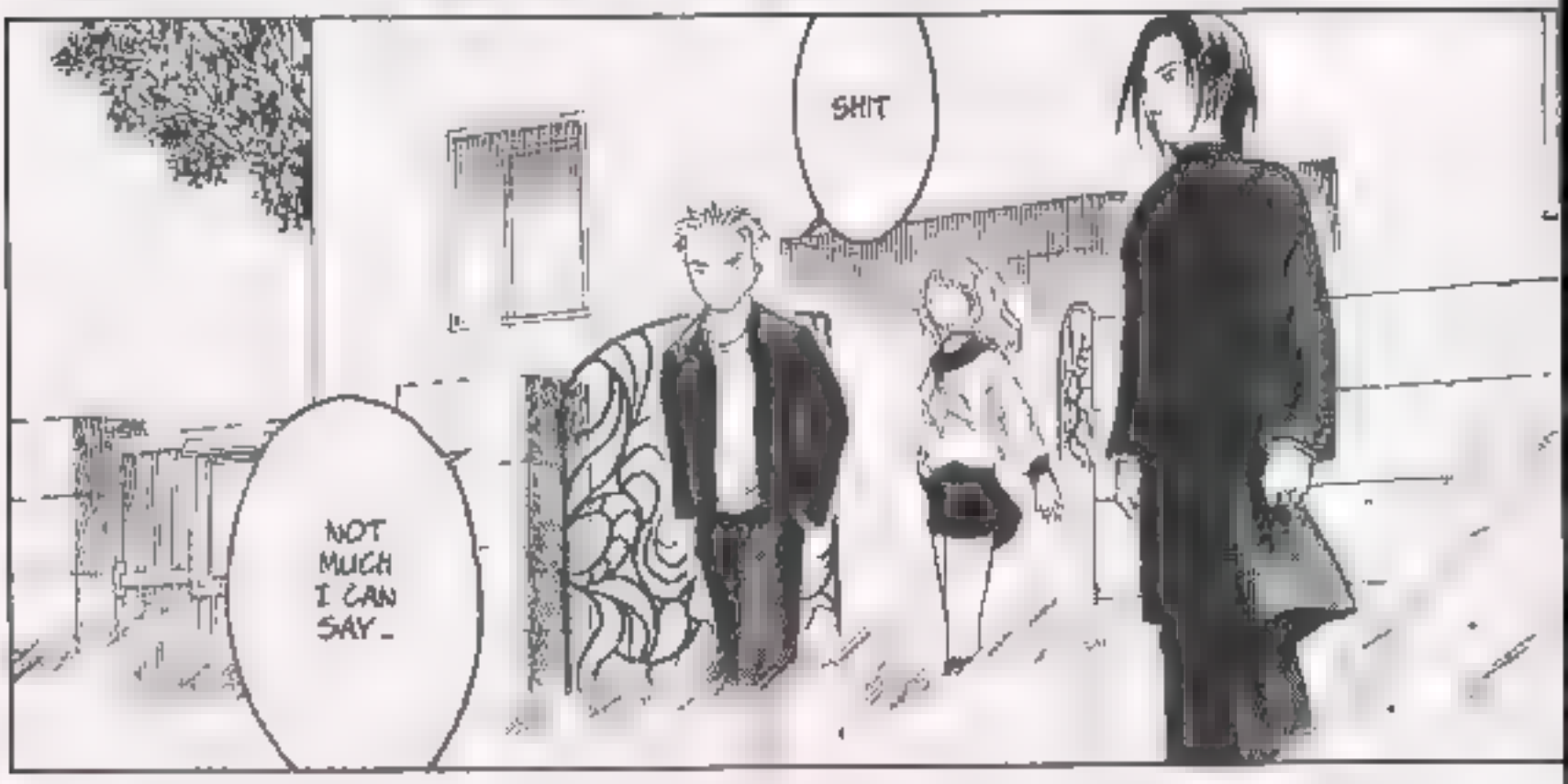
I WAS ABLE TO COME ACROSS A "LIVE" BODY, NOT A CORPSE.

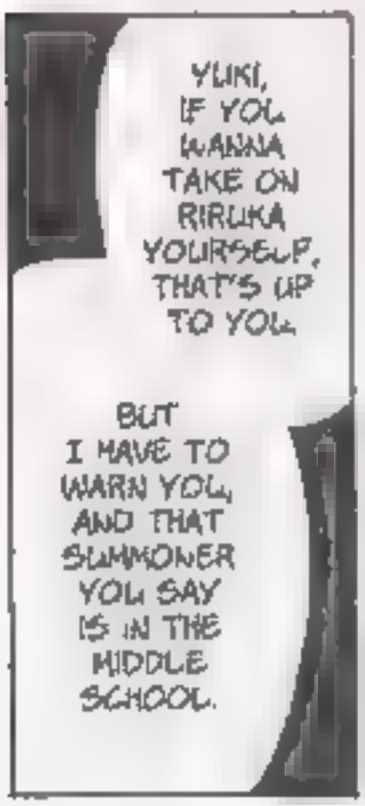
IN OTHER WORDS, THE MOST PERFECT OF RESURRECTIONS!

AND, THE LIVING BODY REVIVED MY ZOMBIFIED HEAD → ITS CELLS "RE-ACTIVATED" BY THE BLOOD THAT WAS STILL FLOWING THROUGH RYOKA'S BODY, AND RESTARTED THE METABOLISM!!


YOU'RE GETTING HER LUNGS DIRTY, YUKI.
UZUMI

THAT INCLUDES SECOND-HAND SMOKE FROM PEOPLE WHO SMOKE INDOORS.


SHIT
NOT MUCH I CAN SAY_


YUKI, IF YOU WANNA TAKE ON RIRUKA YOURSELF, THAT'S UP TO YOU.
BUT I HAVE TO WARN YOU, AND THAT SUMMONER YOU SAY IS IN THE MIDDLE SCHOOL.

IT'S TRUE THAT THEY DID CUT OFF RYOKA'S HEAD.
SO MAYBE YOU SHOULD THINK OF REIKO BORROWING IT AS HER INTERVENING TO SAVE HER.
_BASICALLY, YOU'RE SAYING RYOKA'S STILL ALIVE.

AND WHEN SHE FINDS YOU, YOU HAVE TWO CHOICES: JOIN HER, OR HAVE YOUR SOUL RIPPED FROM YOUR BODY!!

AND IF YOU THINK ABOUT JOINING HER JUST TO STAY ALIVE...

THE MARK OF THE SUMMONER -- THIS MARK ON OUR PALMS -- IS SOMETHING SHE WILL DEFINITELY BE KEEPING AN EYE OUT FOR!!

IF RIRUKA FINDS YOU AND YOUR PAL, SHE WILL TRY TO DRAG YOU INTO HER SERVICE!!

HER ONLY GOAL IS TOTAL POWER!!

DUNNO.. MAYBE TELL RIRUKA THAT "I SWEAR I'M ON YOUR TEAM," OR SOMETHING?

MAYBE WE COULD SEND SOMEONE IN AS A SPY?

KA-CHUNK

THEN YOU'RE AN ENEMY OF OURS.

FIGHTING RIRUKA IS THE ONLY OPTION.

YOU AND YOUR FRIEND WOULD HAVE TO BE THE TYPE THAT HAS NO OBJECTIONS TO MINDLESS, INDISCRIMINATE SLAUGHTER.

BASICALLY, RIRUKA AND HER MINIONS KILL FIRST AND TALK LATER -- KILLING WITHOUT REMORSE IS A PREREQUISITE FOR JOINING THEM.

MAN OR WOMAN, OLD OR YOUNG -- IT DOESN'T MATTER -- YOU HAVE TO KILL EVERYTHING IN FRONT OF YOU TO JOIN THEM.

THEN I'LL INTRODUCE YOU TO THE OTHER SUMMONER. BUT YOU HAVE TO KNOW...

IF THAT'S REALLY HOW YOU FEEL

MY PLAN IS THAT WE BAND TOGETHER -- NOT JUST FOR MY SAKE, BUT ALSO FOR EVERYONE'S SAKE!!

WELL, LET'S HEAR YOUR FUCKING IDEA!! WHAT PLAN YOU HAVE, HUH?!

AND IF YOU TRY TO MAKE HER FIGHT, SHE'D PROBABLY JUST BREAK DOWN AND START CRYING.

THE IDEA OF "FIGHTING ENEMIES" ISN'T SOMETHING SHE'S EVEN CONSIDERED -- IT'S HER PERSONALITY.

..YOU SHOULDN'T EXPECT HER TO BE A POWERHOUSE IN BATTLE.

** NOT ON A MORAL LEVEL--SHE'S JUST SO YOUNG. "BATTLE" ISN'T SOMETHING THAT SHE'S THOUGHT ABOUT

WHERE IS HE?

HE PROMISED ME THAT WE'D GO HOME TOGETHER.

SO I'LL DO HER PART, TOO -- I'LL FIGHT FOR THE BOTH OF US.

YUKI?

HEY!

YUK—KI

.. YOU'RE DAT GIRL, MAYO, RIGHT? FROM THE MIDDLE SCHOOL, FIRST YEAR, CLASS B, RIGHT?

HEY THERE...

I SHOULD'VE GONE AFTER YOU FIRST!! EVEN IF YOU'RE JUST SOME CRIPPLE.

YOUR BODY HAS IT'S OWN FRESHNESS, DIFFERENT DAN REIKO'S.

E-HYA-HYAAA!!

YOUR HAND --

PUMPH

PUMPH

GET YOUR HANDS OFF MY SISTER, YOU SACK OF SHIT!!

OH SHIT!!

BROTHER?!

MY BROTHER!

HE-HE-HE

AND THEN I FUCKING KILL YOU

FIRST YOU'RE GONNA APOLOGIZE TO MY SISTER

MORE THAN BEING ANGRY, I FEEL PITY FOR HIS SAD EXISTENCE.

YOU'RE THAT SICKO, NOROTA. I'VE HEARD ABOUT YOU

I HAD IT PLANNED, DOLT! I KNEW GOING AFTER HER WOULD BRING YOU HERE!!

I WOULD HAVE PREFERRED THAT THEY DIDN'T SHOW UP AND I COULD JUST HAVE MY WAY WITH HER, THOUGH.

!!

WHAT THE?!

AND, AS YA ALREADY KNOW, I AM ONE OF RIRUKA'S MINIONS!

KENNETH DYNAMO
Executioner in the era of the Salem Witch Trials

KILLING ALL OF YOU RIGHT NOW AND NOT LEAVING ANYTHING FOR ANYONE ELSE IS A LITTLE SELFISH OF ME, BUT I'M DOING IT FOR RIRUKA

LET ME TEACH YA SOMETHING. EVEN ZOMBIES HAVE THEIR OWN PERSONALITIES

THERE ARE THOSE ZOMBIES THAT FOLLOW THEIR MASTER'S EVERY WISH, AND THOSE THAT ACT ON THEIR OWN CHOICES. AND EVEN THEM DAT JUST KILL EVERYTHING AROUND THEM, BUT ..

...I CAN SUM UP KENNETH IN ONE WORD: "IDIOT."

GYUNN

KENNETH, KILL DEM ALL!!

HEY THERE! ♥ NICE TO MEET EVERYONE!! I'M KENNETH'S FRIEND, MILKY! ♥

KENNETH, GUESS WHAT COLOR PANTIES I AM WEARING TODAY!!

AND, IT'S BECAUSE HE'S SUCH AN 'IDIOT'

THAT HE IS SO POWER-FUL!!

ぱわーん

BUT YOU HAVE TO DO SOMETHING FOR ME, FIRST! ♥

UGH-ULLUGH

UGH

ユラ ユラ

YOU WANT TO SEE MY PANTIES, DON'T YOU, CUTE STUFF? ♥

ARE THEY WHITE? ♥ OR MAYBE PINK!! ♥

DO YOU WANT TO SEE THEM?

WELL, COULD YOU...

UGH!!

UMGH!!

COULD YOU DO ME A TEENSY-WEENSY FAVOR?

RU-AA AUU UG

...PLEASE KILL THEM ALL FOR ME, KENNETH!

ARISE ROBIN!!

GENERAL ROBIN DAVIES
Died in battle during the War of the Roses in 1455

HE'S COMING! GET READY!! GET READY!!

THAT'S ALL YOU HAVE TO DO TO CONTROL HIM?! THIS GUY TAKES THE TITLE FOR THE WORLD CHAMPION MORON!!

YOU'VE GOT TO BE KIDDING ME!!

THAT IS REALLY WEAK.

THAT'S NOT GOOD

HOLD HIM BACK, YURIKAWA!!

!!

SAKI YURIKAWA

Saki was responsible for the deaths of 29 young girls in the town of Shiraike. Died in battle while fighting Reiko Himezono.

LOOK AT ME WHEN I'M TALKING TO YA!!

WHY DON'T YA BRING YOUR OWN ZOMBIES INTO THE MIX?!

YOU TWO, BROTHER AND SIS, RIGHT?

LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE NOTHING BUT TO FALL BACK TO DEFENSE!!

NYA-HA-HA-HA! LOOK AT WHAT WE HAVE HERE!

IF ME OR MY SISTER WERE TO SUMMON OUR ZOMBIES NOW. .

..WE'D JUST BE SHOWING YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS ALL OF OUR CARDS.

THAT'S SOMETHING I'D PREFER TO AVOID WITH SOME APE LIKE YOU.

ACTU-ALLY...

I'M JUST WONDERING WHERE YOUR FRIENDS ARE WATCHING US FROM...

JUST WHAT I THOUGHT, DUMB-SHIT!!

KENNETH!! KILL HIM!!

PUTCH

A LITTLE TWIST ON SUMMONING!! I JUST SUMMONED THE HAND!!

O-AHH?!

I HAVE TO STOP THIS GUY IN HIS TRACKS — EVEN IF IT'S JUST FOR A SECOND!!

JUST LONG ENOUGH TO...

GIMME THAT FUCKIN' DOLL, MOTHER FUCKER!!

ALL I HAVE TO DO IS GET THE DOLL AND...

U—UNA!! LET GO OF IT!!

THAT ZOMBIE DOESN'T TAKE COMMANDS FROM YOU, IT TAKES IT FROM THE DOLL!!

INFIGHT

STOPPING YOUR ATTACK IS NO PROBLEM!!

GYAAHH!!

YOU BROKE IT!!

SHIT!!

WHOOOAA!!

WHAT?!

THERE'S NO WAY TO STOP HIM NOW!!

KENNETH, RETURN TO HELL!!

SUMMONING TERMINATED!!

WHEW...

STOP RIGHT THERE!! YOU'VE GOT SOME TALKING TO DO!!

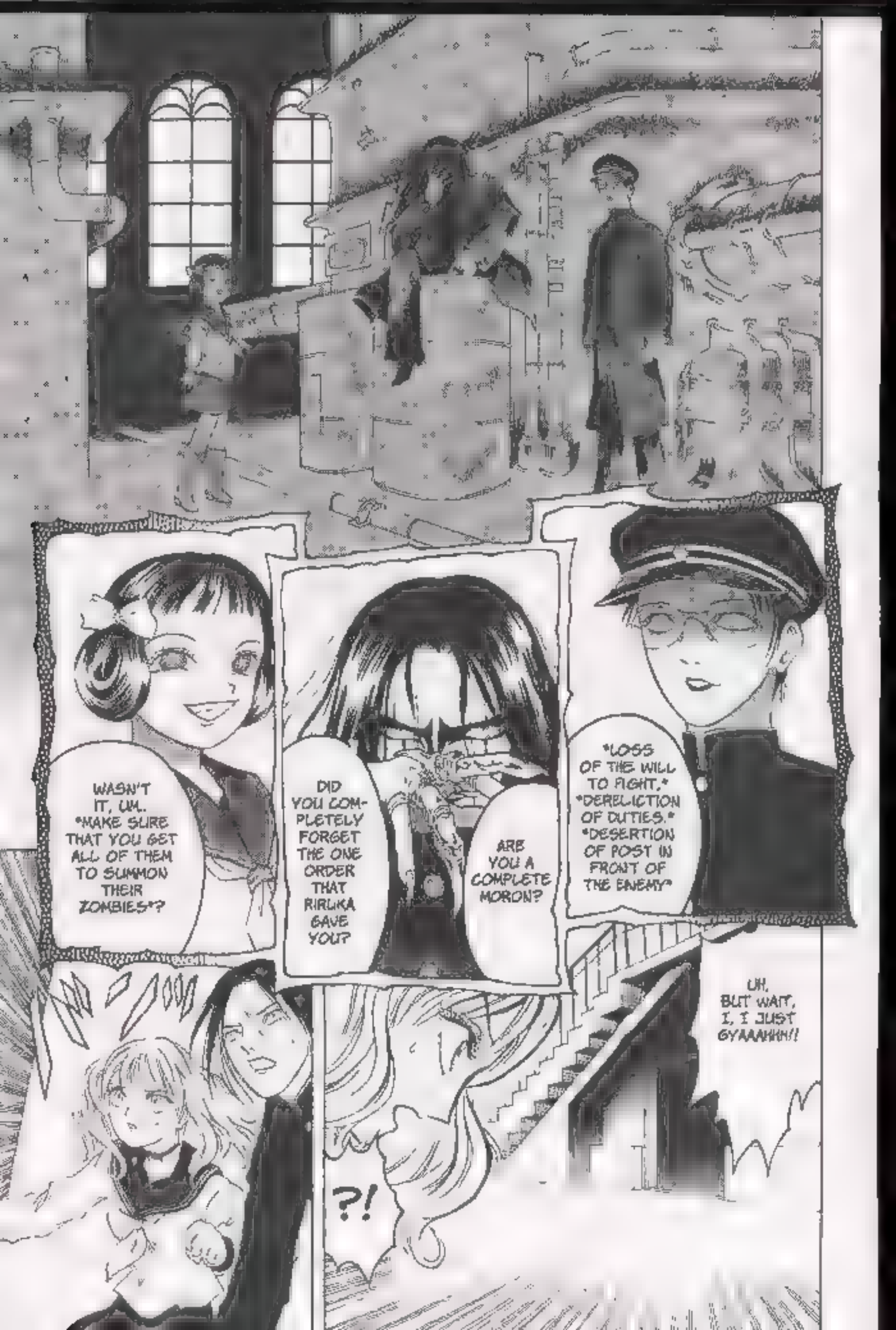
WHOOOAAA!!

HUH?

HAA HAA

HE'S PRETTY FAST FOR AN OTAKU!!

GIVE US SOME INFO AND WE PROMISE WE WON'T HURT YOU!!


WASN'T IT, UH. *MAKE SURE THAT YOU GET ALL OF THEM TO SUMMON THEIR ZOMBIES*?
DID YOU COMPLETELY FORGET THE ONE ORDER THAT RIRUKA GAVE YOU?
ARE YOU A COMPLETE MORON?
LOSS OF THE WILL TO FIGHT, *DERELICTION OF DUTIES.* *DESERTION OF POST IN FRONT OF THE ENEMY*
UH, BUT WAIT, I, I JUST
GYAAHHH!!
?!

WAS HE KILLED BY SOMETHING . SOMEONE?

BUT, WHERE'S THE BODY?

THEY TOOK IT WITH THEM . .

... TO GET RID OF ANY EVIDENCE.

IT'S OKAY SIS, STOP CRYING!

MAYO, THERE'S NO REASON TO BE SCARED.

YOUR BIG BRO WILL TAKE CARE OF YOU!

I WON'T EVER LEAVE YOU ALONE.

END
おわり

ACT 9

AND, BEING STUDENTS OF ART, COPYING *MANGA* PERFECTLY DOESN'T MEAN THAT YOU'VE CREATED A *PICTURE.*

-- AS MEMBERS OF THE *ART CLUB*, I'D LIKE YOU TO HAVE A GRASP OF AT LEAST THE *BASICS* OF ART.

BEING GOOD AT *SKETCHING* DOESN'T NECESSARILY MEAN THAT YOU'RE A GOOD *ARTIST*, BUT --

AZUSA?

I KNOW THAT THERE ARE ONLY A FEW OF YOU THAT ACTUALLY *SHOW UP* TO CLUB, BUT --

-- WE SHOULD LET THE KIDS THAT AREN'T INTERESTED IN *ANYTHING* KNOW WHAT WE ARE MADE OF!

WHAT, EMIKO?

I STOPPED REIKO IN THE HALLS TO TALK JUST ONCE RECENTLY.

I WONDER IF SHE HATES ME OR SOMETHING.

REIKO SURE HASN'T BEEN NICE LATELY, DON'T YOU THINK?

...AND SHE SEEMED *CRAZED*, OBSESSED ABOUT SOMETHING... SHE LOOKED AT ME AND SHE HAD THIS AURA LIKE *"IF YOU GET NEAR ME YOU'LL GET YOURSELF HURT,"* OR SOMETHING.

NO, IT'S ALL ABOUT HOW YOU *SHARPEN* THE PENCIL! LET ME SHOW YOU.

I'M *TELLING* YOU 4B LEADS ARE TOO *SOFT!*

SHOOT!

SIZAP

YES, MA'AM.

SORRY 'BOUT THAT.

YOU TWO! WHY DON'T YOU QUIT CHIT-CHATTING AND CONCENTRATE ON YOUR WORK!

SKETCHING AND DESIGN REQUIRE CONCENTRATION, BUT ALSO HONE YOUR CONCENTRATION, AS WELL.

THEY SAY THAT *LEONARDO DA VINCI* DUG UP BODIES, ALL IN THE NAME OF RESEARCHING ART

I THINK THAT WE SHOULD WORK WITH THE SAME PASSION AND FERVOR!

WHAT?

ALTHOUGH, THERE MIGHT BE A SOCIAL PROBLEM WITH DOING THAT, NOWADAYS.

SENSEI?

SEN—

TRANSLATOR'S NOTE: IN JAPAN, IT IS COMMON TO ADDRESS THE TEACHER/INSTRUCTOR AS "SENSEI" -- IN THIS CASE "TEACHER" -- AND OMIT THE ACTUAL TEACHER'S NAME.

GYAAA!! MY HANDS!!

THEY'RE MOVING BY—

KYAAAA!

THEM-SEL—

LET'S SEE. . . HOW ABOUT

"DIG IN A FEW MORE INCHES."

FLESH CONTROL.

SUCH ARE THE TALENTS OF I, *IDETO TANI!*

YOU TWO ARE *REIKO NIMEZONO'S* GOOD FRIENDS, RIGHT?

REIKO'S WALKING AROUND SCHOOL RANDOMLY, MAKING FRIENDS WITH *MORONS* LIKE YOU HAS NOW BECOME HER *DOWNFALL.*

NOW SPIN THAT HEAD *180 DEGREES.*

KYAAA!!

ON HIS WAY TO MEET WITH A CLIENT HE DIED ALONG WITH MY MOTHER, IN A PLANE CRASH

AND ALL THAT HE LEFT BEHIND WERE ME AND.

USING HIS GIFTS AS A NECROMANCER MY FATHER, TOO, WAS A "ZOMBIE SHOP" BY TRADE

TURNING THE DEAD INTO ZOMBIES, AND GETTING PAID FOR IT

...MY SISTER, [illegible]

WE BOTH RECEIVED THE "GIFT" FROM MY FATHER

BUT MY SISTER CHOSE THE *DARKER* PATH

A WORLD WHERE MY [illegible] THAT SERVE HER

[illegible] TO CREATE [illegible]

ZOMBIES, CALLED UP FROM HELL TO DO HER [illegible] LARGE FOLLOWING OF SUMMONERS

AND RIRUKA CAN READ EACH OTHER'S MINDS AS TWINS—WHICH THEY ARE. SHE CALLS HER OLDER SISTER, [illegible]

YUKI!!

I WANT SOME *ICE CREAM!*

I HATE EVIL, BUT FOR ME IT'S MAINLY THAT —

— I HATE THE *"IF YOU CAN'T BEAT 'EM, JOIN 'EM"* ATTITUDE.

BUT I THINK I'LL PASS. I'LL CHOOSE WHAT'S *RIGHT.*

RIRUKA PROMISES THAT THOSE THAT FOLLOW HER WILL BE REWARDED.

I WILL NOT!!

BUT YOU'LL GET *PUDGY* IF YOU EAT TOO MUCH!

NO PROBLEM, SIS, WE'LL STOP BY 7-11 ON THE WAY *HOME!*

*THERE'S JUST ONE THING THAT BOTHERS ME ABOUT THIS_*

IF ANY OF THEM WERE TO FALL INTO THE HANDS OF THE ENEMY...

...THERE'S REALLY NO TELLING HOW FAR SOMEONE MIGHT GO TO SAVE THEM.

...JUST LIKE YUKI LOVES AND ADORES HIS LITTLE SISTER..

...THERE ARE A LOT OF PEOPLE INVOLVED IN THIS THAT REALLY CARE FOR EACH OTHER.

OH, HEY.

CAN I GIVE YOU A HAND WITH THAT WHEEL-CHAIR?

TH-THANK YOU.

FIRST LET ME WIPE OFF MY HANDS — THEY'RE A LITTLE SWEATY

IT'S GOOD KARMA TO HELP EACH OTHER. I'LL GET THIS SIDE.

OK. UH. THANKS. FEEL BAD, THOUGH — DON'T EVEN KNOW YOU.

MAN, I AM JUST OVER-THINKING THINGS.

I'M EMBARRASSED AT MYSELF., THINKING THAT A STRANGER'S GOOD WILL IS THE ENEMY'S TRAP OR SOMETHING.

UH. LIKE.. NOT...

WHAT? IS THERE SOMETHING STRANGE ABOUT MY HANDS?

IF THIS GUY WAS A SUMMONER, THERE'D BE A STAR-SHAPED MARK ON HIS PALM, BUT -

ゴッ

ゴッ

SHALL WE LIGHTEN THE *LOAD*, THEN?

HERE WE GO -- ONLY FIVE MORE STEPS!

YUKI, I AM *NOT* HEAVY!

THANKS FOR ALL THIS -- I KNOW THIS IS REALLY HEAVY AND ALL.

I CAN JUST DICE YOUR LITTLE SISTER INTO *FOUR BITS*, AND THEN WE CAN EACH CARRY A *PIECE* DOWN.

IT'S REALLY PRETTY EASY.

!!

WHAT THE--

WHA—?

...BUT THE *SUMMONER!!*

CHAMELEON MODEL'6

Can alter its form in order to get close to its target. Its right arm is comprised completely of the flesh and body parts of dead animals.

YOU SEE, THERE ISN'T ONE 'CAUSE I AM NOT A SUMMONER...

THINKING THAT BECAUSE THERE ISN'T A STAR-MARK ON MY HAND WAS SUCH A *CARELESS* MISTAKE!

YOU HAVE BEEN *WARNED.*

YOU HAVE *THREE* SECONDS TO LET GO OF MAYO.

NOT A NECROMANCER, BUT A ZOMBIE!!

JUST WHAT I THOUGHT — USING HER AS A *HOSTAGE!!*

BUT THAT WAS YOUR DOWNFALL, *MORON!* ALL WE HAD TO DO WAS TURN YOUR ABSOLUTE LOVE OF YOUR SISTER *AGAINST YOU!*

2

3

HA!! JUST WHAT WE THOUGHT — A BEAUTIFUL, LOVING BROTHER-SISTER RELATION-SHIP?!

WHAT?

TIME'S UP

BLOW HIM AWAY.

THWIP

1

TAKING YOU DOWN WOULD BE *SIMPLE!!* DO YOU THINK I WILL LET HER GO *KNOWING* THAT?! HUH?!

BLAM!

BLAM!

BLAM!

BLAM!

WHOOAARR!!

JACK GUNS

In westward-ho, pioneer America, this famous outlaw had a bounty out on his head. He was shot to death when a sheriff ambushed him on a train that he was holding up

YES SIR, BOSS!

SHIT!!

FINISH HIM, JACK! BLOW HIS HEAD TO *PIECES!!*

DON'T WORRY, MAYO! YOU'RE *FINE* NOW!

WOW! WHAT WAS —

DID YOU *HEAR* THAT?! *WOW!!* COME CHECK THIS OUT!!

GAHA HA HA

!!!

N—A

RUN!!

EH?

HEY, MISTER GUNMAN! MAYBE YOU CAN WASH YOUR FACE WITH THIS OR SOMETHING!!

I SUMMONED THIS ONE!!

CHAMELEON MODEL SIX WAS BROUGHT TO YOU BY ME!!

KYAHA HAHA HA!!

!!

THEY'RE HEADED INTO THE SCHOOL BUILDING!!

DAMN!!

SLASH
WAAA!!
KYAAA!!
!!
THEY'VE GOT TO BE RIGHT AROUND--
RUN--
PLEASE!! JUST CALM DOWN!! THINK THIS OVER.
...YOU'RE NOT THE KIND OF PERSON THAT WOULD DO THIS.
SE-
SENSEI, YOU'VE GOTTA GET OUTTA HERE, NOW!!
PLEASE PLEASE RUN!!
SPURT

THIS-THIS *ISN'T* WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE.

MY GOD!! REIKO!!

AZUSA?!

"*STUDENTS AND TEACHERS SLASHED: EIGHT KILLED WITH A BOX CUTTER!!*"

I'M SURE THE WORLD WILL SOON BE *RIVETED* AND *MOVED* BY THE CRIME THAT SHE COMMITTED!!

AND WITH THAT HER LIFE IS, FOR THE MOST PART, *OVER.*

MUDO KALAMBA
The witch doctor shaman of an ancient south-american warrior tribe. Able to conjure harm—be it plague, accidents or floods—and inflict them on enemy tribes.

MUDO KALAMBA WAS A WITCH DOCTOR SHAMAN IN A FORMER LIFE—

—AND CAN CONTROL PEOPLE WITH MERE INTONATION OF A SPELL.

AND THEN I WOULD HAVE NEVER LAID EYES ON HER.

...YOU SHOULD HAVE KILLED HER WHEN YOU HAD THE CHANCE.

AND IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT, REIKO HIME-ZONO...

...YOU SHALL SEE NO MERCY...

OH, AND THERE'S ANOTHER POWER MUDO HAS...!

ROBIN!

KA-CHIN

NO!!

JUST LIKE THIS!!

THWICK

WHOAAA!

KYAA!!

KIII

SHAAA

YURI-KAWA!! STOP!!

!!

SO, IF MYSELF OR MUDO ARE *HARMED*, THAT PAIN AND INJURY WILL BE PROJECTED TO AZUSA *TENFOLD!!*

THE *OTHER POWER*, YOU SEE, IS THAT HE CAN TRANSPOSE HARM UPON THE CONTROLLED.

A GOOD *CHOICE*, REIKO.

AHHH!!

LIKE THIS!!

SO, IF YOU'RE FINE WITH THAT, BY ALL MEANS, COME!!

IT—

IT HURTS!

EMIKO...

LOOK...

REI-REIKO!

UGH!

WHOAA!!

...UP!!

BLAM

BLAM

BLAM

THW-SPLURGH

PRETTY CRUEL FOR SOMEONE WHO HAS THEIR FRIEND DYING IN AGONY IN FRONT OF THEM.

BUT SO WHAT? YOU WERE *TOO LATE* TO RESCUE HER ANYWAY, RIGHT?

DAMN.

IT HAPPENS, IT HAPPENS.

I DIDN'T THINK THAT YOUR FRIEND HAD ANY LIFE IN HER.

BUT WE HAVE TO KEEP OUR COOL, NOW MORE THAN EVER!

HE KNOWS THAT REIKO FEELS RESPONSIBILITY FOR BRINGING HER FRIENDS INTO THIS.

I STILL CONTROL WHETHER YOUR FRIEND *LIVES* OR *DIES*.

LIKE I SAID, *SHITHEADS*, CALL OFF YOUR ZOMBIES.

OH!

LOOKS LIKE AZUSA HAS JUST STARTED THE *DEATH-SENTENCE GAME*.

SO, YOU THREE, CALL OFF YOUR ZOMBIES!

!

SHIT!

HE-HE...

WHAT'S SO *FUNNY?!*

WHA--

I DON'T AND HAVE *NEVER...*

A-HA HAHA HA!!

...HAD ANY PERSON THAT I'D CONSIDER A FRIEND!!

REIKO, NO!!

AAH..

UGLORGG

KA-KO

YOU KILL *ME* AND AZUSA *DIES!!*

KYAAA!!

AH!!

WAIT A GODDAMNED SECOND, REIKO!!

THE FUCK?!

AZUSA-CHAN!! AZUSA-CHAN!! NOOO!!

HUH?

NO!!

OH NO!!

NEKOGAMI?! WHAT'S GOING ON, NEKOGAMI!!

!!

KYAHA! ♥

KYAHAHAHA...

I'M *RISA NEKOGAMI!!* IF YOU BEFRIEND ME, THEN I CAN GET YOU ANY INFORMATION YOU —

RIRUKA!! WE'VE FAILED!! THEY KILLED TANI!!

AND AZUSA, TOO!!

AND-AND I'M IN DEEP TROUBLE, TOO!! THEY BLEW AWAY CHAMELEON MODEL SIX AND I CAN'T DO ANYTHING ELSE TO STOP THEM!!

WHAT?!

NEKO-GAMI... YOU HAVE SERVED ME WELL. *? CLICK ε*

LIKE-LIKE WHERE RIRUKA IS RIGHT NOW!!

NO, PLEASE NO!! I'LL TELL YOU EVERY-THING!!

ZOOO!!

BUT FOR RIGHT NOW... DIE.

YOU'LL TALK, ALRIGHT WE'LL JUST ZOMBIFY YOUR SEVERED HEAD.

GLOR-BORGHHH

YOU-YOU WOULDN'T!

WHY...?

WHY'D YOU JUST *SIT THERE* AND LET AZUSA *DIE?*

U-HU

...ALL THAT MATTERS IS *ME.*

.BUT WHEN IT COMES *DOWN* TO IT...

SORRY TO TELL YOU, EMIKO...

REIKO..

THAT WAS A *TOUGH* DECISION.

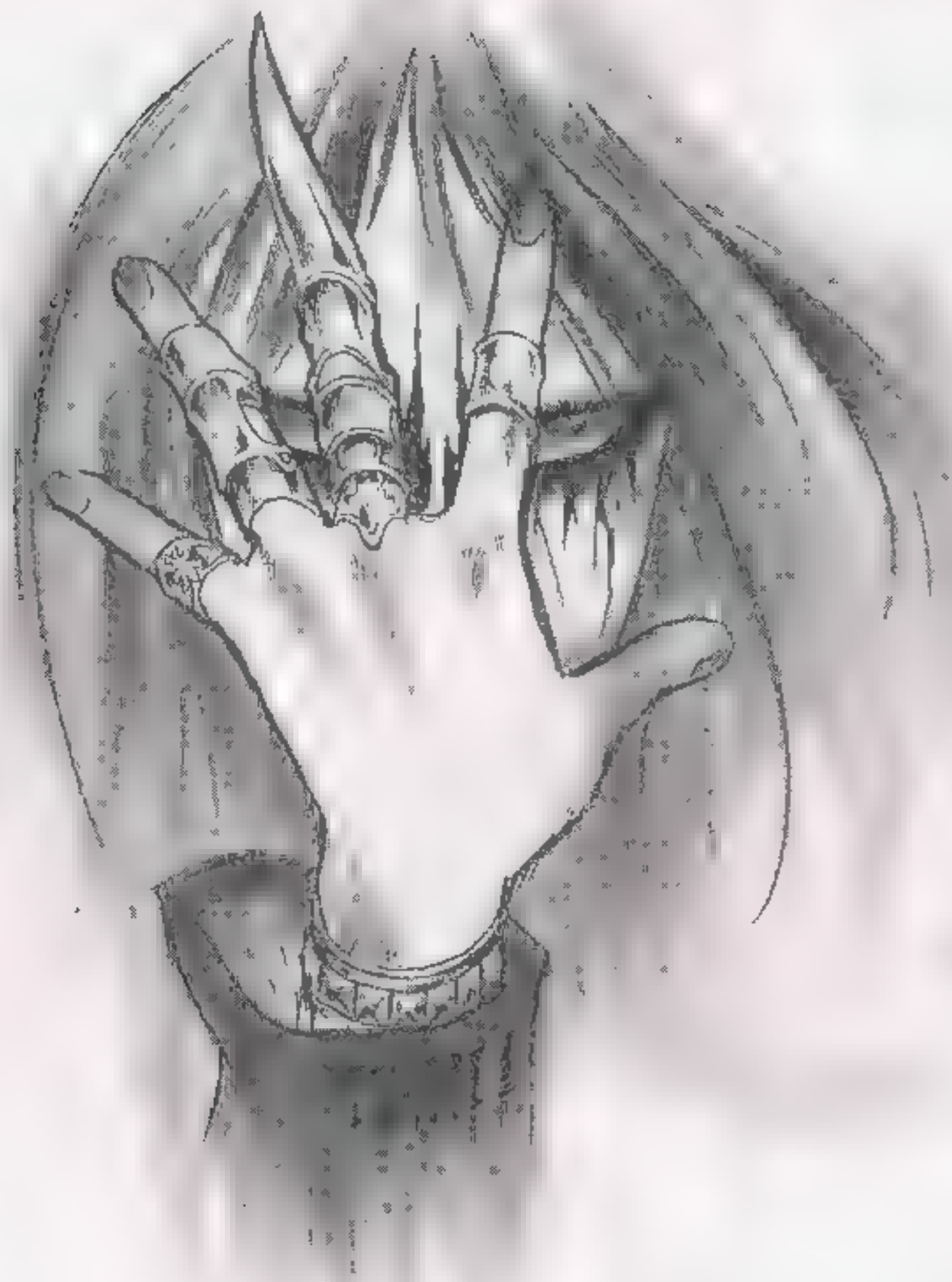
UWAAA!

REIKO, I REALLY HOPE THAT'S THE CASE.

THIS TYPE OF STUFF WON'T WORK WITH YOU, AND THEY WON'T TRY THE SAME THING AGAIN.

BUT NOW THEY KNOW YOUR STANCE ON HOSTAGES, REIKO: NO COMPROMISE.

Act 19



RIRUKA HIMEZONO IS SOMEWHERE IN THIS VILLAGE.

RIRUKA, WHO ONLY WANTS TO *DOMINATE* THE PLANET BY COVERING EVERY LAST INCH IN HER *ZOMBIE MINIONS* --

-- SOMEWHERE, IS IN THE MIDST OF PREPARING FOR THIS.

BECAUSE WE'RE HEADED INTO ENEMY TERRITORY --

WE HAVE TO BE MORE READY THAN *EVER.*

CHRIST! WE *KNOW!* IT'S NOT LIKE WE THINK THIS IS A *FIELD TRIP!*

I KNOW, YUKI, WE HEAR YOU.

BUT WE DID BRING SNACKS.

WE'LL COMMENCE MOVEMENT ONCE WE GET OFF THE BUS.

I'M HOPING WE CAN BE AT RIRUKA'S *THROAT*--

--BEFORE THEY HAVE *ANY IDEA* WE'RE EVEN HERE.

キキキ

SCREEECH

ガシャン

WHOA!

PECHA

AWA!

ゴオオオオオ

HONNNK

MA'AM, EXCUSE US!!

WOULD YOU MIND GETTING OFF THE ROAD?!

GULP

GULP

GULP

COME ON OUT, *GADARA.*

GADARA, YOU HAD BETTER HEAD INTO BATTLE ON A *FULL STOMACH.*

HOW DARE YOU TELL ME, *SUIPIN*, TO MOVE.

BUNU

THERE'S NO WAY!! YOU TELLING ME THAT SNAKE'S A *ZOMBIE*?!

A *SUMMONER*!! SHE'S ONE OF RIRUKA'S SERVANTS!!

AND THE FACT THAT THE ENEMY IS *HERE*, AMBUSHING US, MEANS THAT...

SHE SIMPLY SUMMONED THE *REMAINS* OF THAT GIANT SNAKE AS A ZOMBIE!!

...RIRUKA *KNOWS* THAT WE'RE HERE AT THE VILLAGE!!

GYAAA

AH... AHHH!

GYAAAH!

MAYO!! HOLD ON TO YOUR BRO!!

THROUGH THE *WINDOWS!* GET OUT NOW OR THAT SNAKE'LL MAKE US *LUNCH!!*

WAHHH!

TALK ABOUT *POWER!!*

GONNA MAKE LOTS OF *MONEY* ON THIS ONE. ♥

ONCE ONE SIDE LOOKS LIKE THEY'VE HAD IT THAT'S WHEN IT'S *BUSINESS TIME.*

RIGHT ABOUT NOW, SEEMS LIKE THEY'RE EVENLY MATCHED.

OHH! *YESSS!* THAT'S IT, THAT'S IT! ♥

AND *YUKI TOHDOH* WITH HIS SISTER, MAYO.

LOOK HERE - *REIKO NIMEZONO,* AND *RUDOH MISHIMA.*

NOW DARE *YOU FOUR* RESIST OUR RIRUKA.

NOW, WE SHALL *PUNISH* YOU ALL WITH GADARA.

DID YOU JUST SAY "WE"?

DID—?

MAYO, HIDE BEHIND THAT ROCK.

O-OK!

EH?

THAT I DID!!

GORO GORO GORO

ゴロゴロゴロ

THREE VERSUS FOUR — NOT *VERY GOOD* ODDS.

WELL, TECHNI-CALLY ONLY 3.5.

ONLY ONE-HALF OF THAT BRAT *ACTUALLY* WORKS.

WHADDAYA MEAN? ADD YOUR *SISTER* AND YOU'VE GOT *FOUR.*

GORO GORO

ゴロ ゴロ

HAVING SEEN THE TRUE POWER OF GADARA, YOU *STILL* DON'T RETREAT

EVEN IF YOU *ARE* AN OLD MAN, YOU WILL SEE NO MERCY FROM US.

SERIOUSLY, SNAKE LADY, COMPLIMENTS FROM *YOU* DON'T MEAN ANYTHING.

FOR THAT, I *PRAISE* YOU.

ZAAA

YOUR HEAD IS *MINE!!*

YURI-KAWA, *ATTACK!!*

ARISE, GENE-RAL ROBIN!!

JACK GUNS, *BLOW 'EM AWAY!!*

GADARA, *FEAST!!*

KILL THEM, HELDRAD!

...

YOU'RE UP, KUBIO-TOSHI!!

KUBIOTOSHI

A Heike warrior killed at the Battle of Dannoura. Be careless, and he will lop off not only your head, but your arms and legs, as well.

GYAAA!!

YER FUCKIN' DEAD!!

HELDRAD
A member of the biker gang the Hell's Angels known for its violent tendencies—died after a failed chicken race.

UH

THUD

COME ONNNN!!

DU
ET

NO WAY

KIN

GLORPH

BLAM

BEAN

THAT WAS FAST!!

GYAHEE!!

UGEHT!

MASTER-LESS ZOMBIES'LL RETURN TO *HELL!!*

WHAT IS THIS GUY, "MAZINGER Z" OR SOMETHING?!

BRING IT

YOU SNOTTY LITTLE *SHIT.*

JACK, KILL *BALDY* OVER THERE!! JUST TAKE HIM *OUT!*

WHAT THE—?!

KA-BOOM!!

HA! IT WORKED!!

OHH!

I HAD A "BUG" SLIP INTO THE MUZZLE, SO IT'D *BACKFIRE!!*

SO HE IS IMPERVIOUS TO *BULLETS* AND *BLADES!!*

HIS BODY IS MADE UP OF THE BODIES OF 100,000 *RE-ANI-MATED BUGS!!*

INSECT EMPIRE

A zombie composed of countless insects

SHE'S DOING A GREAT JOB HOLDING BACK *GADARA'S FANGS* ~

~ BUT, IF SHE MOVES FROM THAT POSITION, SHE'LL BE *SWALLOWED* INSTANTLY!!

KYAAA!!

... LEAVING HER IN THAT POSITION WILL THROW US INTO A COMPLETELY DEFENSIVE POSTURE!!

YURIKAWA IS ABLE TO FEND OFF GADARA'S FANG ATTACKS, BUT...

REIKO HIME-ZONO!

PERHAPS YOU'RE UNDER THE ASSUMPTION THAT GADARA'S ATTACKS ARE LIMITED COMPLETELY TO ITS *FANGS?*

AH!

UGU...

KATHUD

I WONDER WHICH ONE SHALL MEET THEIR END *FIRST?!*

HAHA HAHA HAHA HA!!

NN...!!

O...

OHSU

KIIIE"

KUBIOTOSHI, MY DEAR ZOMBIE —

— LAY THEM ALL TO REST!!

REIKO!!

IF THIS KEEPS UP, WE'RE...!!

UNDER-STOOD, MASTER!!

?!

TIME-OUT ON THE BATTLE -- IT'S TIME TO TALK BUSINESS.
..."PURCHASED" ME.
ONE OF YOU TWO SIDES...
AND I WILL GRANT VICTORY TO THE SIDE THAT NAMES THE HIGHEST PRICE.
YOU CAN ALL JUST CONSIDER ME YOUR GODDESS OF VICTORY.
FUCK

WHAT THE HELL YOU TALKING ABOUT? *LEAVE*, LITTLE GIRL!!

WAIT.

NO --

I'M KNOWN AS THE "BEAUTIFUL MERCENARY."

JASMINE MENDOSA, AGE 16.

WHO THE *HELL* ARE YOU?!

-- SHE WAS NEVER UP TO NEGOTIATING *PRICE*, AND ALWAYS MANAGED TO SLIP OUT OF THE PICTURE UNTIL *NOW*.

RIRUKA SAID SHE'D LIKE TO HAVE HER WORKING ON OUR SIDE, AND TOLD US TO LOOK FOR HER. BUT --

I HAVE HEARD ABOUT THE "BEAUTIFUL MERCENARY."

YOU'RE TRYING TO GET US TO VIE FOR YOUR BUSINESS?

THE *NERVE* OF YOU...

THE *LONGER* THE BATTLE LASTS, THE MORE WARRIORS ON EITHER SIDE WILL *LOSE*.

BUT THE LONGER I TEASE THEM AND KEEP THEM IN SUSPENSE, THE MORE I'LL GET *PAID*.

I THOUGHT I SAID DON'T *MOVE!!*

DI --

'CAUSE EVEN IF I SUMMON ZOMBIES --

IN THE END, IT'S *ME* WHO DOES ALL THE FIGHTING!

PASHI

NOW YOU KNOW I'M NOT KIDDING. NOW YOU KNOW THAT I AM *WILLING* --

-- AND MOST DEFINITELY *ABLE*, RIGHT?!

ガビーン

NOOO!!

WHEN DID SHE EVER SAY "DON'T MOVE"?!

I AM CERTAIN THAT WE CAN DEFEAT REIKO WITHOUT THE HELP OF THIS GIRL, BUT

HMM...

SHE COULD BE QUITE DANGEROUS SHOULD SHE JOIN REIKO'S SIDE.

IT LOANS ME JUST ABOUT ANY TYPE OF *MELEE WEAPON* YOU COULD IMAGINE.

THE ZOMBIE THAT I SUMMON IS MERELY A "WEAPON MERCHANT."

VICTORY KATANA
Hands weapons to its master, Jasmine. It doesn't actually fight.

WE ALL RECEIVE 3,000,000 YEN FROM RIRUKA AS COMPENSATION!!

BE IT GOOD OR BAD, WE HAVE LOST ONE OF OUR OWN TODAY IN *BATTLE!!*

I WON'T LET THAT HAPPEN!!

WE'LL PAY YOU *THREE MILLION YEN!!*

YOU SAID YOUR NAME WAS *JASMINE*, RIGHT?!

YUKI ...

RUDOH, LET'S HIRE HER!!

...WE'VE GOT ABOUT 300,000 YEN IF WE PUT OUR MONEY TOGETHER. .

3,000,000, HUH? I THINK IT COULD GO A STEP *HIGHER.*

SO, IN ORDER TO GET THAT PRICE A *WEE BIT* HIGHER, WE'LL HAVE TO ..

SO WE'LL GIVE YOU *THEIR* PORTION.

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

SUMMONERS WHO LOSE THEIR ZOMBIES ARE COMPLETELY WORTHLESS!!

TO THINK THAT THOSE WHO DIDN'T HELP OR DO ANYTHING WOULD GET 3,000,000 IS RIDICULOUS!!

BI-BITCH!!

THAT WAY, WE ALL GET 4,000,000, RIGHT?

WE'LL JUST SPLIT THIS OLD FART'S CASH BETWEEN US. ♥

...JUST GET RID OF THIS *OLD MAN* HERE!!

OBUGOEGO!!

THIS GIRL.

IT'S A GOOD THING WE DIDN'T HIRE HER.

ARE YOU *CRAZY?!*

... TEN MILLION IN CASH!!

MY BIDDING PRICE WILL BE...

J-JASMINE. YOU SAID YOUR NAME WAS *JASMINE*, RIGHT?

WOULD A HIGH SCHOOLER REALLY HAVE THAT MUCH MONEY ON HAND?

HM? HOLD ON A SECOND.

WHA--?

OH YESSS! ♥

NOT SURE WHAT YOU'RE THINKING -- *BITCH!!*

THAT'S HOW MUCH YOU'LL *PAY* ME!!

?!

WE HAVE A *WINNER!!* YOU AND I ARE FRIENDS!!

THIS PLACE IS GONNA BE A *HELL-ON-EARTH BLOODBATH* IN NO TIME.

AND IN THE *CARNAGE* THAT'S *ABOUT TO HAPPEN*, *NOT ALL* OF US WILL *MAKE IT OUT OF HERE*.

AND THE *ONLY ONE* WHO CAN SAVE ALL OF US IS *ME*.

SO, IF YOU *WANT TO LIVE*, YOU BETTER JUST HAND OVER THAT *TEN MILLION* NOW!

OH, SATAN, LORD OF DEMONS! HEAR NOW OUR PLEA TO YOU!

GRANT US NOW YOUR GREAT POWER!!

HAVE YOU *GONE MAD*, REIKO *HIMEZONO*?

SHOULDN'T YOU BE *THINKING ABOUT YOUR OWN SAFETY* RIGHT NOW?

GOKO

...??

BREATHE LIFE INTO TO DEATH, IF ONLY FOR A MOMENT'S BREATH!!

GOBO

GOBO

WHA-WHAT'S *WRONG*, MY DEAR GADARA?!

!!

WHAT ON *EARTH* ARE YOU —?

N-NO.

AND IT'S NOT JUST ONE OR TWO, *RIGHT?*

— I WONDER HOW MANY BODIES, STILL *INTACT*, YOU'VE HAD TO FEED IT

MERI

DEVOURING THEIR PREY WHOLE, WITHOUT CHEWING, IS HOW SNAKES EAT THEIR PREY — LIKE *LIVE BAIT!*

MERI

IN ORDER FOR SOME-THING THAT BIG TO FEEL *FULL* —

ZOOOM!!

WOHHH

BU-BAOOO

BU-OHH

OHHH

SHARR

GIII

SHE ZOMBIFIED ALL THE CORPSES INSIDE THE SNAKE!!

JESUS!

UGE!

THEY HAVEN'T BEEN ALL COMPLETELY DIGESTED!!

NO—

LIKE SHELLY'S EGGS!!

I AM REIKO THE ZOMBIE SHOP!!

NOO!!

BRINGING THE DEAD BACK IS WHAT I DO!!

GYAAA!

NOO!! GET-GET OFF OF ME!!

AGG!! DAMMIT!!

GYAAA!!

YOU BITCH, REIKO HIME-ZONO!!

AVENGE ME, MASTER RIRUKA!

THEY'VE GOT HER SURROUNDED! SHOULD WE GO BACK AND SAVE HER?!

WAG!!

YOU KIDDING, YUKI? DON'T PISS ME OFF.

AT *THIS* RATE I'M..

..DEAD..?!

HOW MANY OF THESE ARE THERE?! THERE'S NO COUNTING!!

YOU-
YOU'RE—

—DEAD...!

SAY YES, AND I'LL END THIS.

YOU FEEL LIKE PAYING ME THAT *TEN MILLION* YET?

JASMINE!!

OTHER THAN PAYING ME MONEY—

—THERE'S ONLY *ONE OTHER WAY* THAT I CAN SAVE YOU!!

WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY?!

WAH!

OH SATAN, LORD OF DEMONS.

RETURN THIS UNDEAD SWARM TO THEIR ETERNAL REST!!

SO, I GUESS THAT WE'RE EVEN.

BUT YOU STILL OWE ME TEN MILLION YOU KNOW.

I'M GONNA HIRE YOU.

I'LL PAY YOU THAT TEN MILLION.

AH!!

I DIDN'T ASK YOU TO, YOU JUST--

I SAVED YOU AS AN *ADVANCE* ON THE MONEY THAT YOU OWE ME.

OH, REALLY?

BUT, I DID SAVE YOU, DIDN'T I?

LET ME TELL YOU SOMETHING, I DIDN'T SAY THAT I WAS *"FOR HIRE."*

BUT YOU SEEM TO LACK THE BUSINESS PROFESSIONALISM OF A *TRUE* MERCENARY

AS THE *"ZOMBIE SHOP"* -- A PRO -- I KNOW HOW TO DO WHAT I DO.

WAIT!!

YOU MEAN, GODDESS OF VICTORY, RIGHT?

YOU CAN COUNT ON MY HONOR AS A MERC!!

IT WAS MY PRIDE AND HONOR!!

I DIDN'T PROMISE TO TEAM-UP OR BUDDY-UP WITH YOU!!

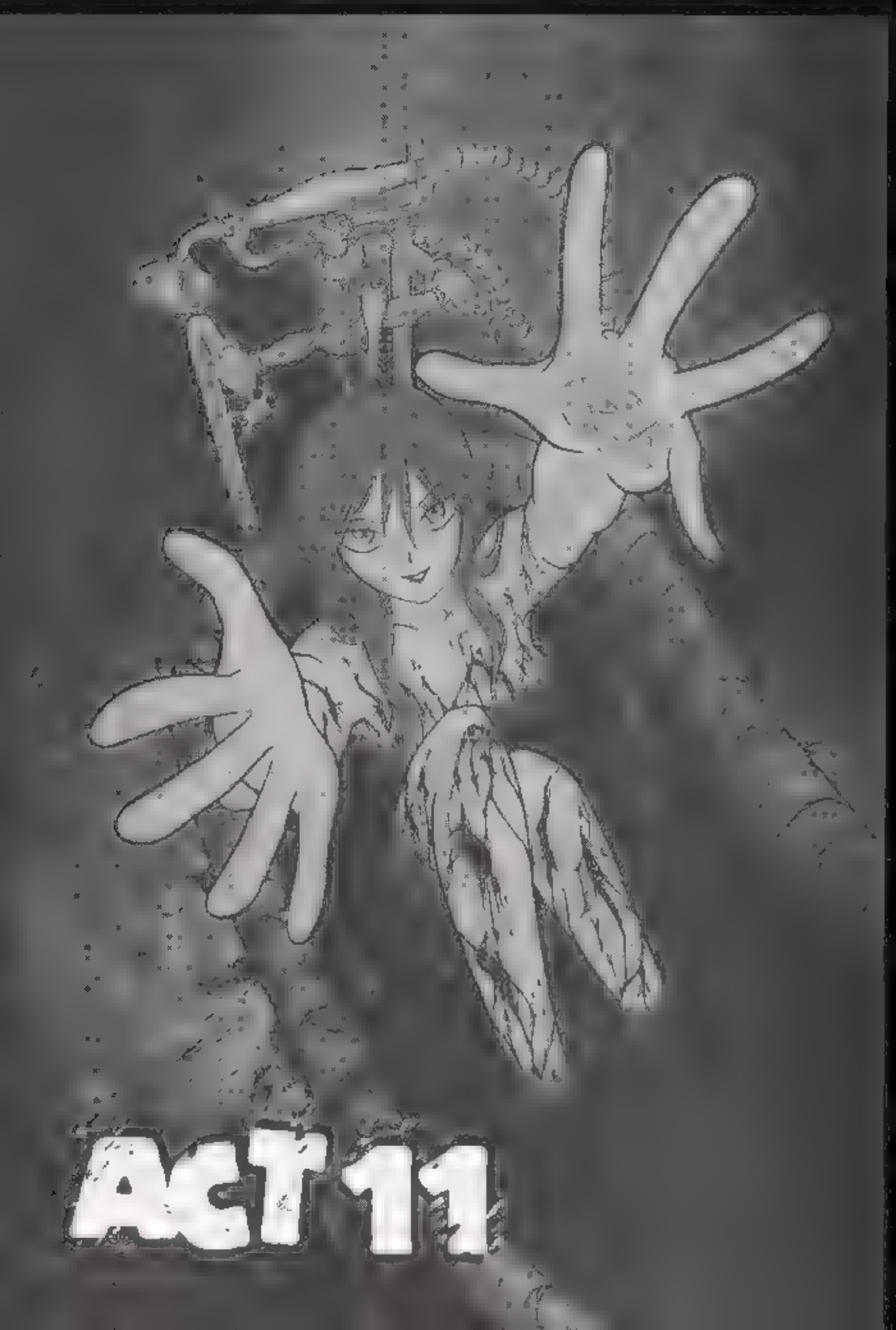
— WHAT VICTORY IS!!

I'LL SHOW YOU GUYS —

SHE- SHE'S COMING WITH US.

REIKO!! WHAT WERE YOU TWO TALKING ABOUT?!

DUMMY!! IGNORE HER!!



ACT 11

PLEASE, MISS RIRUKA, PLEASE STOP!!

KYAAA!

ESPECIALLY FOR A MAID.

DAMN, YOU TALK A LOT.

AH-WHEN YOUR DAD GETS HOME...

...WHAT IS HE GOING TO SAY?!

YOU THREW OUT ALL THE DEAD ANIMAL BODIES THAT I HAD IN MY ROOM, SO I MADE IT...

WHY DO YOU THINK I CREATED IT?!

TAKE A LOOK!! THE CUTE LITTLE PET I MADE WITH ALL OF THE BODIES THAT I COLLECTED!!

KYAAA!!

DO-GYAAA

...TO KILL YOU!!

RETURN THIS ZOMBIE TO ITS ETERNAL SLUMBER!!

OH SATAN, LORD OF DEMONS!!

ARE YOU AWAKE, MISS RIRUKA?

I JUST HAD A DREAM ABOUT MY DAMNED LITTLE SISTER.

MY SISTER... IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I HAVE SENSED HER PRESENCE ANYWHERE NEAR.

I AM CERTAIN THAT SHE IS APPROACHING US.

WELL, MISS RIRUKA, SHE IS YOUR TWIN SISTER, AND AS SUCH...

IT SEEMS NOT THE SLIGHTEST BIT STRANGE THAT YOU AND HER CAN SENSE EACH OTHER—YOUR SOULS WALK THE SAME WAVELENGTH.

MY STUPID LITTLE SISTER...

SHE KNOWS THAT THE *ENVIRONMENT* OF OUR PLANET WILL BE *PRESERVED* IF I CONTROL THE WORLD...

AND YOUR *MEANS* OF ACTUALIZING THAT - WHAT DID YOU SAY - *MASS SLAUGHTER?*

BUT, YOU ONLY HAVE TO PUT UP WITH THIS *THROUGH* TONIGHT.

FOR THOSE WHO WOULD PREVENT YOU FROM *REALIZING* YOUR *IDEALS* - EVEN YOUR SISTER - SHALL BE *DELIVERED UNTO DEATH.*

NEKRON

AND THE *LABOR SHORTAGES* THAT FOLLOW THE *MASS SLAUGHTER* IS WHERE WE SHALL BE *THERE TO HELP - AGAIN!!*

IF WE *ELIMINATE* OVER 99% OF *THE POPULATION,* THEN *FAMINE, DEPLETION OF RESOURCES,* AND *THE POLLUTION OF OUR ENVIRONMENT* - THEY SHALL ALL BE *THINGS OF THE PAST!!*

YES! REDUCING THE *NUMBER OF PEOPLE* IS ONLY THE *FIRST STEP!!*

MOVIES, TV, PLACES OF BEAUTY, J-POP, VIDEO GAMES, MANGA — *EVERYTHING!!* ALL OF IT WILL BE THERE—AND ONLY FOR ME!!

AND I, AS QUEEN OF THE EMPIRE, WILL SLURP THE SWEET REWARDS!!

IN OTHER WORDS—THE [redacted] OF THE DEAD!!

FOOD, FASHION, AIR-CONDITIONING, ENTERTAINMENT— ALL OF THOSE WILL BE UNNECESSARY!! AND I AM GOING TO CREATE THAT ZOMBIE EMPIRE!!

...YOU, MY RIGHT-HAND MAN, DR. ZERO, MUST KILL THAT BRAT REIKO!!

IN ORDER FOR ME TO SUCCEED...

IF AND HOW REIKO AND HER FRIENDS WILL ESCAPE, HOWEVER, DEPENDS COMPLETELY ON THEM.

I HAVE ALREADY SENT SOMEONE TO DISPATCH THEM.

AN URGENT MATTER HAS ARISEN.

AND THE FIVE INTRUDERS ARE FAST APPROACHING!!

THE ADVANCE PARTY THAT WAS SENT TO ATTACK THE NIGHT BUS THAT REIKO RODE... THE FOUR OF THEM... ALL OF THEM ARE DEAD!!

MISS RIRUKA AND DR. ZERO, PLEASE PARDON ME!!

!!

WHAT?

DI-DID I SAY SOME-THING...?

I APOLOGIZE DEARLY, MISS RIRUKA.

DR. ZERO.

IT WAS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO PROPERLY TRAIN THE SERVANTS, WAS IT NOT?

AAAA!!

SLASH

YOU SHALL BE PERMA-NENTLY SCRAPPED!!

IF YOU PLAN TO EMBARRASS ME, THE EXECUTOR, EVER AGAIN...

I TOLD YOU TO KNOCK BEFORE ENTERING, ARTIFICIAL BEING NUMBER 08, DIDN'T I?

...IT—IT WON'T HA—HAPPEN...

EVER AGAIN.

I'M SOR—I'M SORRY, DOC— DOCTOR ZERO...

TRACY...!

DESPITE HOW SHE LOOKS, SHE IS QUITE SERIOUS, SIR.

SHE'S BEEN AT HER POST ALL DAY, SIR.

WHERE DID TRACY DISAP-PEAR TO?

NUM-BER 08.

K'HA-K'HA-HA...

HOWEVER, HER ZOMBIES' POWER LIE NOT IN THE PHYSICAL STRENGTH, BUT...

THE ZOMBIES THAT SHE CREATES ARE NOT POWERFUL ON THE PHYSICAL LEVEL.

WE SHOULD BE AT HER DOORSTEP ANYTIME NOW.

REIKO'S BIG SISTER... WOW!

GAPA

WHEW!

WE'VE BEEN WALKING FOR TWO HOURS STRAIGHT. I'M GETTING A LITTLE THIRSTY.

DON'T FORGET THAT INNOCENT, UNINVOLVED PEOPLE HAVE DIED THROUGH ALL THIS!

HEY, RUDOH, WHY DON'T WE MAKE A BET ON WHICH ONE IS HOTTER!

YUKI, NOW ISN'T THE TIME OR THE PLACE FOR THAT

HEY! THAT COOLER...

AH! THANKS, REIKO.

HERE YOU GO, JASMINE.

?

THERE'S SOMETHING IMPORTANT IN HERE, AND I CAN'T JUST LET ANYONE CARRY IT.

IT'S OKAY.

...WANT ME TO CARRY IT FOR YA?

I AM, AFTER ALL, A MERC— YOUR EMPLOYEE.

PAKI

FROM THE INFORMATION WE HAVE SHE'D BE SOMEWHERE RIGHT ABOUT HERE.

SO, REIKO, RIRUKA'S HERE? AT THIS... ESTATE?

... THERE WOULDN'T BE A GUARD.

!!

IF IT WAS "JUST SOME PERSON'S HOUSE"...

IF WE BUSTED IN, AND IT WAS JUST SOME PERSON'S HOUSE.

YOU SURE?

WELCOME, REIKO NIMEZONO.

WELL, WHAT A CUTE GUARD DOG.

GROWL

GROWL

MY NAME'S TRACY.

SHORTLY, YOU'RE ALL GOING TO HAVE A VERY BAD NIGHTMARE.

THINK ABOUT IT FOR A SECOND_

NOT SOMETHING YOU IMAGINE OR SOMETHING UNREAL.

HERE'S A PREDICTION FOR YOU!

--THEN I WILL HOLD IT UP AND SHOW IT TO YOU!!

AND IF IT'S SOMETHING THAT YOU MIGHT HAVE FORGOTTEN--

A HORRIBLE, WRETCHED MEMORY FROM OUR PAST... FEELINGS OF GUILT CARVED INTO OUR SOULS.

_ WE ALL HAVE ONE OR TWO INSIDE US.

!!

AND SHE'S HERE TO HELP

SINNER'S NIGHTMARE

YUKI..?

IS THAT SPIT?

--THE?!

YUKI TOMOH.

YOU'RE THE FIRST TO BE "RETIRED"!!

HUH?!

I'M GONNA MAKE YOU PAY FOR THAT?!

YOU DIRTY-ASS BITCH!!

!!

ゴゴゴゴゴ

WHAT? WHERE THE HELL IS EVERY—

THE HELL AM I?

YEAH!!

YEAH!!

WAIT A SEC. THIS LOOKS FAMILIAR.

SHUT UP! WE'RE USING IT FOR BB GUN TARGET PRACTICE!!

PLEASE GIMME BACK MY DOLL!

AND DON'T YOU DARE SAY ANYTHING TO MOM!!

YUKI, WAIT!!

tzzz

YOU GOTTA BE SHITTIN' ME!

THIS GUY— THIS KID—

YUKI!!

MAYO, LOOK OUT!!

THERE'S NO WAY~

AH... AHH...!!

MAYO...!!

YUKI, WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?!

NO...

NO...!

THAT'S WHAT YOU GET FOR TEASING US!!

WELL, UNFORTUNATELY, I CAN'T JUST REPLACE YOUR LEGS.

I WISH YOU WERE NEVER BORN!!

WHY'D YOU TAKE MAYO'S DOLL!!

WELL...

...UNLIKE MAYO, YOU ACTUALLY WEAR YOURS OUT, I GUESS.

YOU WANT MONEY FOR SNEAKERS?

...LEARNED THE HARD WAY THAT THERE ARE LIMITS TO TEASING HIS SISTER.

THE TOHDOH'S SON...

YUKI! WHAT'S WRONG?!

YUKI!!

UWAAA!!

A-HA HAHAHA HAHA!!

GYAHAHA!!

SINNER'S NIGHTMARE'S SPITTLE CONTAINS A FAST-ACTING NERVE POISON!!

AND WHILE THE POISON IS NOT ACTUALLY LETHAL—

—IT CAUSES AN IMMEDIATE REACTION IN THE NERVES OF THOSE THAT THE SPITTLE TOUCHES—

BITCH!!

WHY YOU!!

—AND ALL THE SADNESS THAT YOUR SOUL HAS TASTED UP UNTIL NOW COMES CRASHING DOWN ON YOU AT ONCE!!

YUKI WILL HAVE GONE COMPLETELY INSANE IN LESS THAN A MINUTE!!

AND THE ONLY WAY TO STOP THAT IS TO DESTROY *SINNER'S NIGHTMARE*, OR IT'S CONTROLLER, *ME!!*

CAUSE YOU'VE ALL BEEN SPIT ON -- EVEN IF ONLY A LITTLE BIT!!

BUT YOU'RE ALREADY TOO LATE!! *WHY, YOU ASK?!*

AHH

THIS SPLATTER OFF YUKI OR SOMETHING?

YUCK!!

AH

EVEN THOUGH WE ALWAYS FOUGHT TOGETHER AS A TEAM...

RUIDOH...

...HOW COME YOU LIVED?!

!!

...THE ENEMY CUT MY HEAD OFF, AND THEN REIKO HIMEZONO TOOK MY BODY AND USED IT AS HER OWN.

WHY?

WHY'D YOU JUST LET WHATEVER HAPPEN TO MY BODY? HOW COULD YOU DO THAT?

KYAAA!!

AAHHH!!

KA-KA-KA!

HEH-HEH

UWAAA!!

GYAAA!!

AHAHAHAHA!!

LOOK AT REIKO AND HER FRIENDS NOW!!

ALL THAT'S LEFT IS TO FINISH YOU OFF!!

HM?

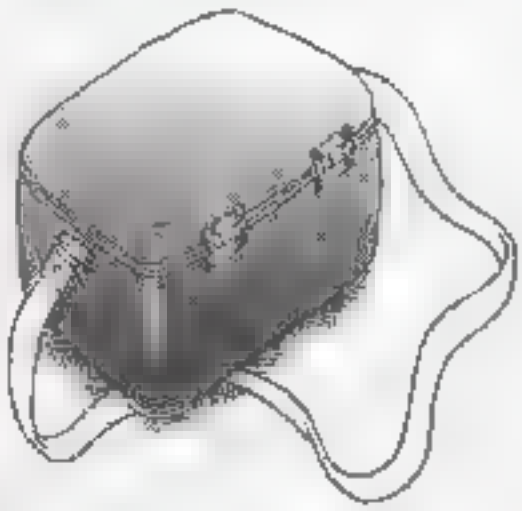
—IT'S THAT I CAN'T SEE THE NIGHTMARES THAT ARE CONSUMING YOU FOOLS.

IF THERE'S ANYTHING I REGRET ABOUT THIS—

I WONDER WHAT SHE SO PRECIOUSLY BROUGHT ALONG WITH HER?

SINNER'S NIGHTMARE, PLEASE OPEN IT.

KAPA



WHA---

WHAT? WHAT IS IT?

HU HU

WHY'D REIKO BRING SOMETHING LIKE THIS...?
THE HELL IS THIS?
SODA

GYAAA!!

THE HELL? THIS IS RIDICULOUS!

NO, YOU'RE RIDICULOUS.

THAT "POISONOUS SPITTLE" HAD NO EFFECT ON ME FROM THE GET GO.

REIKO!!

IF YOU WANTED ME TO SEE NIGHT-MARES, YOU SHOULD HAVE AIMED FOR THE NECK UP.

GU-

SO EVEN IF THAT SPIT GOT ON MY BODY, IT HAS NO EFFECT ON ME.

FROM THE NECK DOWN, I'M *RYOKA AMANO* -- IT'S ANOTHER PERSON'S BODY -- ONE THAT I BORROWED.

UGE!!

GYAA AAAA AAA!!

AHHH!!

BUCHI-

BUCHI-

HUH?!

!!

!!

DAMN..!!

NO LONGER HAVE ANY WAY TO FIGHT US. YOU'RE JUST .. AN AVERAGE ANYBODY

AND NOW YOU'VE LOST THE ZOMBIE YOU CONTROL. AND YOU .

SINNER'S NIGHTMARE IS DONE WITH, AND IT LOOKS LIKE THE NIGHTMARES HAVE LOST EFFECT, TOO

WHADDAYA WANNA DO WITH HER?

MAYBE JUST BREAK FIVE OR SIX BONES, JUST IN CASE?

...

EVEN IF SHE IS OUR ENEMY, SHE IS POWER-LESS.

SO I'M NOT SURE HOW I FEEL ABOUT —

I DON'T CARE.

DO WHATEVER YOU WANT! AFTER ALL, YOU WON.

I KNOW YOU'RE THINKING THAT I CAN'T DO ANYTHING NOW...

BUT, THAT'S JUST WHAT YOU THINK.

I'VE GOT A PRETTY STRONG ACE UP MY SLEEVE!!

THE ULTIMATE WEAPON, WITH WHICH I WILL EXTERMI-NATE ALL OF YOU!!

IF I USE IT, IT'LL TAKE ME WITH IT.

BUT THAT'S FINE IF IT MEANS RIRUKA'S AMBITION WILL BE ACHIEVED!!

BOOM!

YU --

YUKI... YOU DIDN'T HAVE TO --

SPLURT

BUT THAT'S NOT THE ONLY REASON I KILLED HER.

PROBABLY HER LAST DITCH WEAPON — A POISONOUS SPRAY

THERE'S A TUBE WITH A JET NOZZLE ATTACHED.

TAKE A LOOK AT HER GLOVES.

THIS BITCH TOUCHED ON THE PART OF ME THAT I LEAST WANT TOUCHED.

... I JUST HAD A SCARY DREAM.

BIG BROTHER...

AND THAT'S WHY—

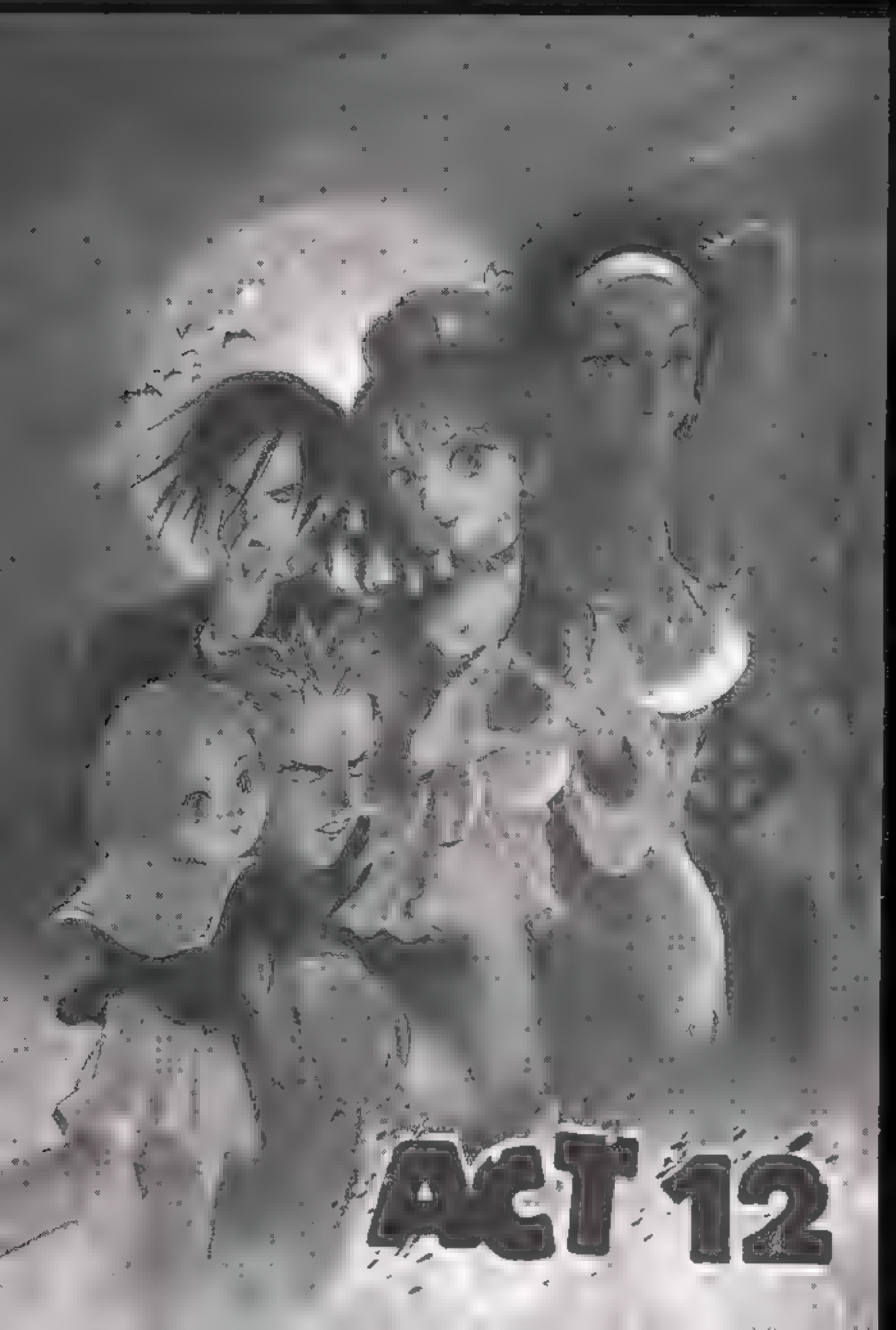
--I HAVE TO BE STRONGER, SO THAT I'LL NEVER SEE YOU SAD LIKE THAT.

I NEVER WANT TO SEE YOU LIKE THAT.

A DREAM THAT YOU WERE IN PAIN BECAUSE OF MY LEGS.

RIRUKA IS ONLY DEVOTED TO FULFILLING HER ULTIMATE DESIRE_

THAT DESIRE, AN EMPIRE OF ZOMBIES. THERE'S NO WAY THAT I'LL LET THAT HAPPEN!!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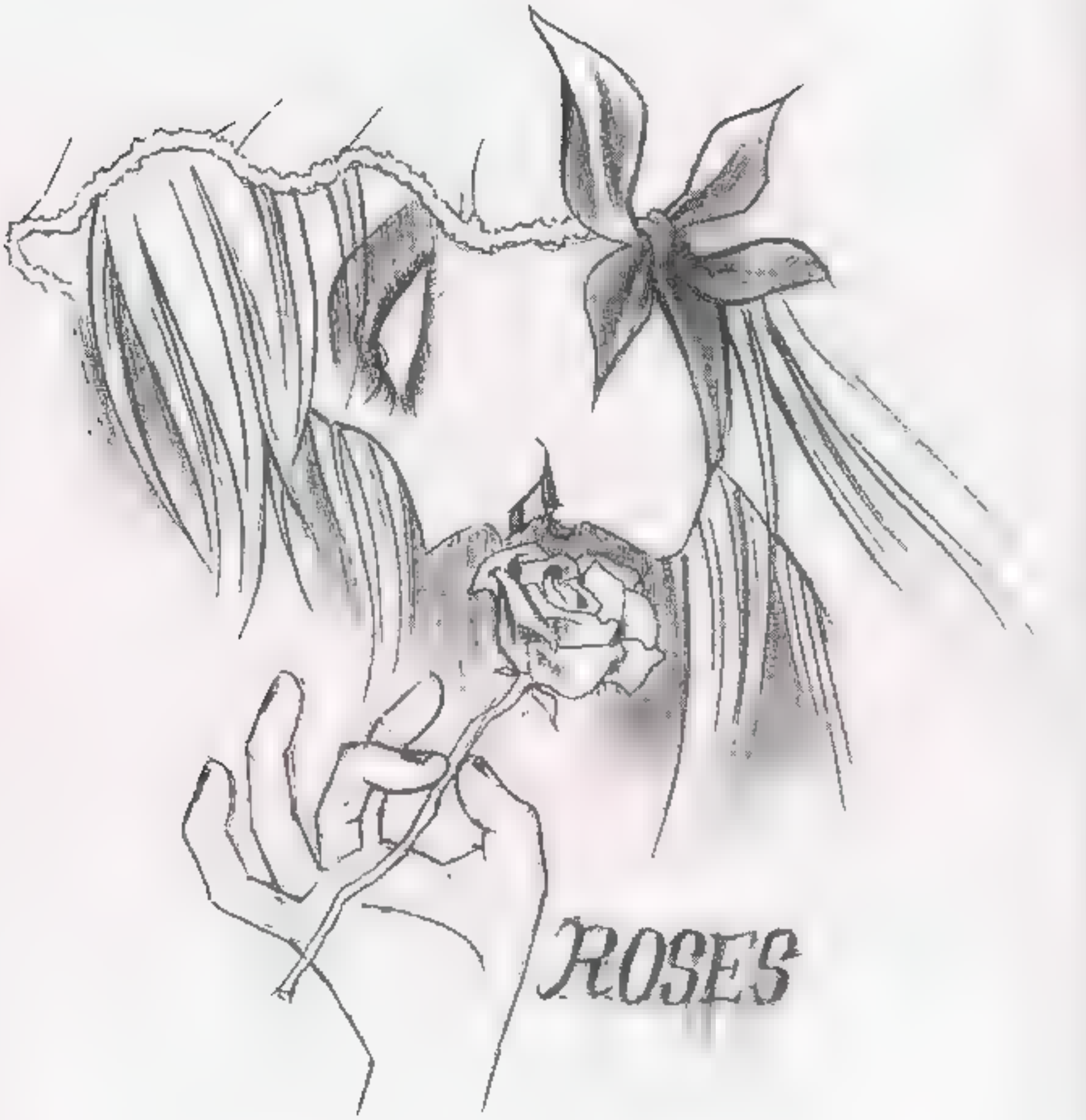

ROSES

JASMINE ATTACK!!

JAS-
WHOA!

BAGON

'BOUT THE JASMINE SLASH!!

'N THE JASMINE NAPALM!!

DON'T UNDERESTIMATE HER... THERE COULD BE LOTS MORE OF RIRUKA'S THUGS AROUND.

AND IT'S OPEN, REIKO!!

OUR "B UNIT" WILL TAKE DOWN RIRUKA RIGHT AWAY!!

WHATEVER! YOU WORRY TOO MUCH, REIKO. ♥

MERCS LIKE ME ARE AROUND TO CUT SWATHS THROUGH THAT NONSENSE, SO DON'T WORRY!

"B" UNIT:
REIKO and **JASMINE**
(to slip in through the back door of Riruka's base)

THUSS STRONGER THAN ANY WE'VE SEEN SO FAR. YOU SHOULD ALSO PREPARE FOR TRAPS OR AMBUSHES.

WE COULD HAVE ALL STORMED IN THROUGH THE FRONT DOOR, BUT YUKI AND RUDOH SUGGESTED THAT WE SPLIT INTO TWO GROUPS.

SOMEWHERE INSIDE THIS HOUSE IS MY SISTER—MY OLDER TWIN RIRUKA -- WHO DREAMS OF NOTHING LESS THAN WORLD DOMINATION, AND WE MUST FIND HER.

"A" UNIT:
YUKI, RUDOH, and **MAYO**
(to charge through the front door)

WHADDAYA THINK?!

LET'S DO IT! LET'S BEAT 'EM AND HEAD HOME!

YOU READY, RUDOH?!

IT'S CALLED STRATEGY! RUDOH AND I USED TO READ ABOUT IT AT HIS HOUSE WHEN WE WERE LITTLE.

THIS IS SOMETHING WE DID TO STAY SAFER.

IF WE ATTACK THE FRONT AND REAR, RARUKA AND HER KNAVES HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO DIVIDE THEIR FORCES.

IF IT LOOKS TOO DANGEROUS, LET'S RETREAT, OKAY?

HEY, YUKI.

FIRST OFF, BREAK DOWN THE DOOR.

ARISE, ROBIN!!

KATA

KATA KATA

KATA

GYARURURU

KA-THOOM!!!

?!

FUCKER! IS THAT YOUR IDEA OF AN INVITATION?!

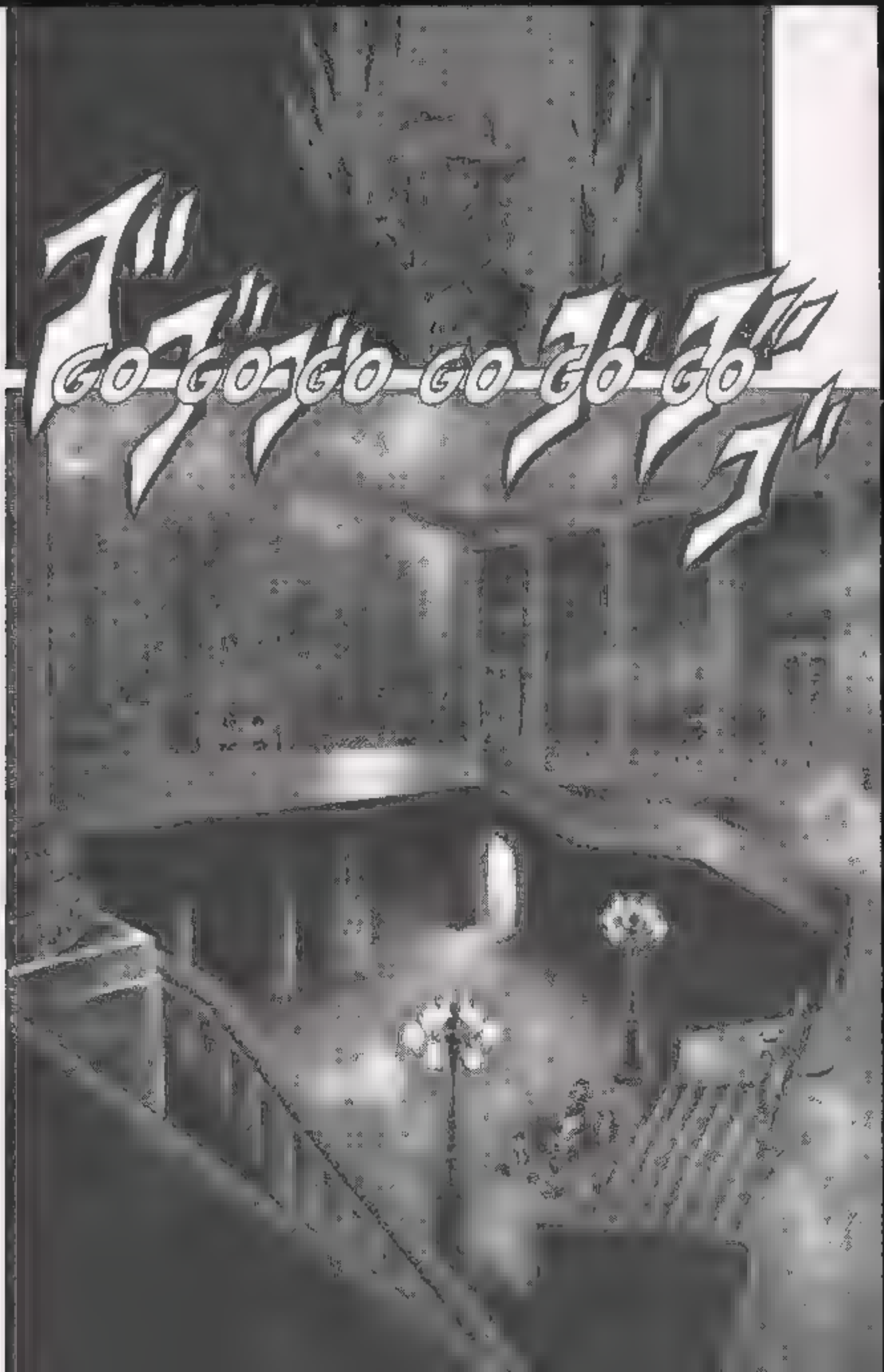
HE'S GETTIN' DRAGGED IN!!

DAMN! I AIN'T GETTIN' SUCKED INTO THAT!!

SHIT! THEY GOT THE JUMP ON US!!

I'M GONNA HAVE JACK FEED YOUR ASS SOME LEAD!!

JACK GUNS -- DO IT!!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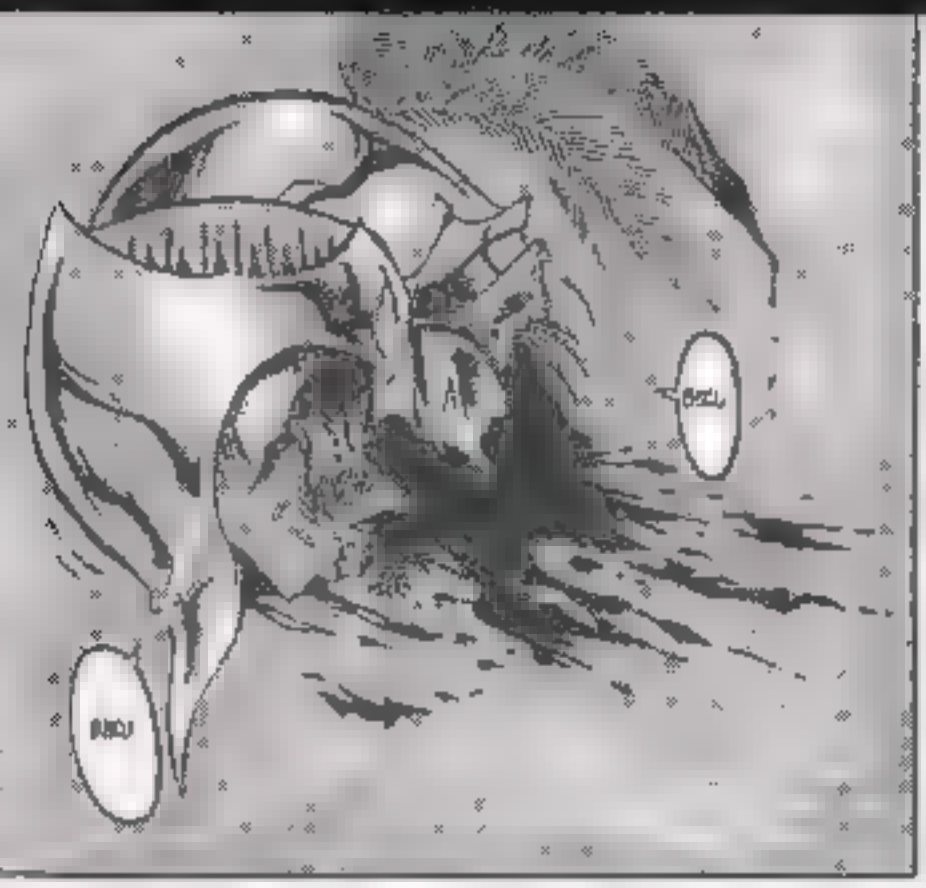
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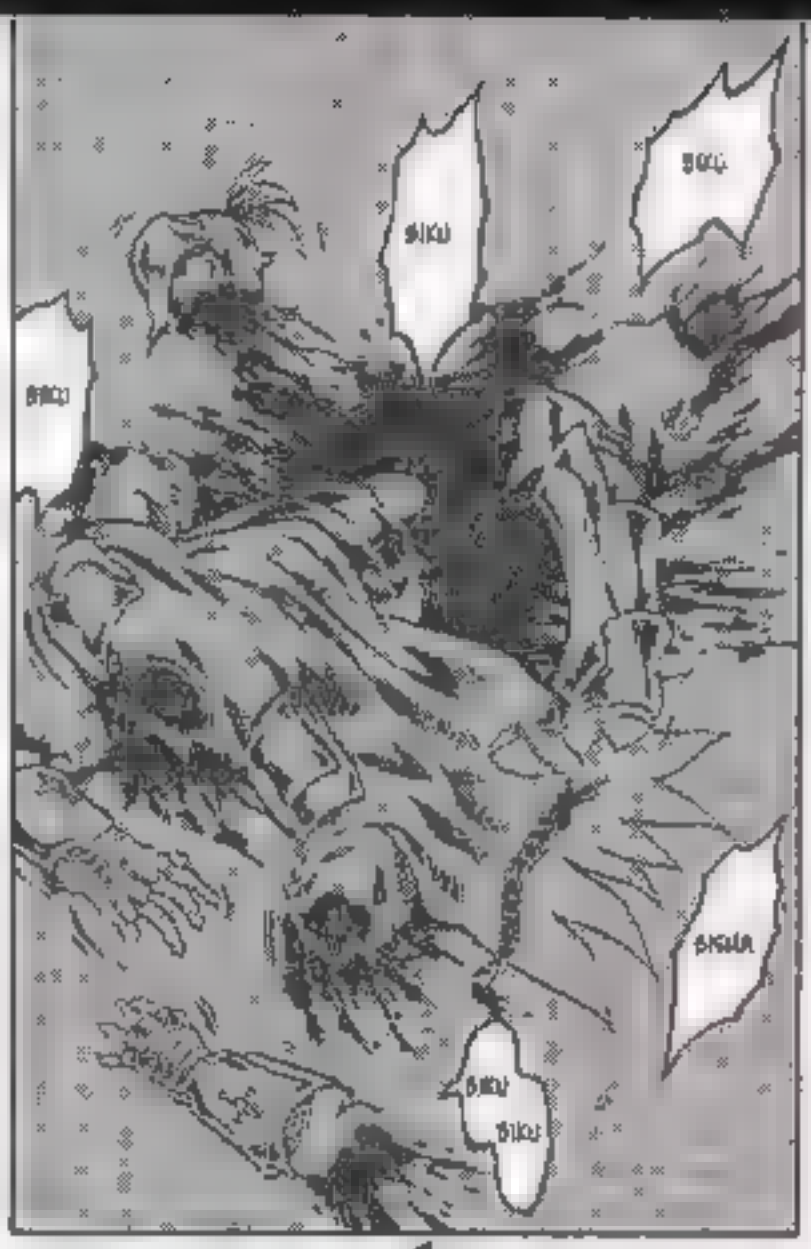
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UGYAAA!!

BLAM!! BLAM!! BLAM!! BLAM!!

Y-YOU GOT HIM!!

WAS THAT GUY A SUMMONER?!

OH YEAH!! ONE OF RIRUKA'S CRETINS!!

THIS GUY PROBABLY SUMMONED THAT REALLY WEIRD ONE WE JUST SAW.

AND THERE'S THE PROOF THAT HE'S A SUMMONER... HE'S GOT THE STAR-MARK ON HIS PALM.

BUT SINCE JACK VENTILATED HIM, I DON'T THINK THAT WE NEED TO WORRY 'BOUT THIS ONE ANYMORE.

HEY RIDOH, I'M SORRY ABOUT ROBIN, MAN.

NAH, YUKI, I'M NOT SAD ABOUT ROBIN.

ONCE WE FINISH THIS UP, YOU WANT ME TO HELP YOU BURY HIM?

...

BWU

BWU

IT'S HARD ON ME KNOWING THAT I'M NOTHING BUT A FIFTH-WHEEL NOW— A TAG-A-LONG.

AND SINCE I JUST LOST ROBIN, I'M NO HELP IN COMBAT.

BUT YOU KNOW, SUMMONERS WITH NOTHING TO SUMMON ARE USELESS.

SHE'S A DITZ, BUT *DAMN* — THAT BODY!!

AFTER WE FINISH KICKING THE SHIT OUT OF RIRUKA, LET'S GO GET A DRINK WITH JASMINE!!

CLAP CLAP

CLAP CLAP

CLAP CLAP

WHO THE HELL WOULD THINK YOU WERE AN ANCHOR OR TAG-A-LONG, AFTER ALL WE HAVE DONE TO GET THIS FAR!!

WHAT THE HELL YOU TALKING ABOUT?! WE'RE FRIENDS, MAN!

CLAP CLAP

CLAP CLAP

THE HELL?! YOU BASTARD!!

NOW 'BOUT YOU CHOKE ON FOUR FUCKIN' BULLETS!!

BRAVO!! WONDERFUL, YUKI!!

I, DR. ZERO, GIVE YOU MY HIGHEST EVALUATION!! FOUR STARS! ★★★★

THAT RUDOH'S NOW NOTHING BUT GARBAGE, BUT YUKI, YOUR COMBAT AND SKILL IN BATTLE—INCREDIBLE!!

WHY WOULD SUCH AN AMAZING SPECIMEN LIKE YOU SIDE WITH SOMEONE LIKE REIKO?!

WOW!! HE DOES IT AGAIN!! AMAZING!!

MEDICAL DEATH
A conjoined doctor and nurse.

!!

LET ME SHOW YOU WHAT YOU'RE MISSING!!

IT'S THAT FUCKER!!

YUKI!!

HA?!

!!

I HEARD YUKI SCREAMING!! OVER THERE!!

WHAT'RE YOU DOING, REIKO?! WE GOTTA FIND RIRUKA — LIKE NOW!!

AHHH!!

NO NO!!

UH-UH-UH!! I'M NOT LETTING YOU THROUGH HERE!!

THIS MANSION WILL BE YOUR GRAVE.

EHE HEHE

EHHH-EHE

!?

THANKS, JASMINE!!

I'LL HAVE THIS ONE TELL US WHERE RIRUKA IS!! YOU HEAD ON AHEAD!!

I'LL KEEP YOU BUSY, BITCH!!

UWAWAWAWA!!

?!

HAVING ALREADY REMOVED THE LEFT LEG, WE WILL NOW REMOVE THE RIGHT LEG, FROM THE KNEE JOINT DOWN.

OPERATION TWO.

GYAAA!!

SN-SHIT!!

I GOTTA HELP YUKI...!

THEREFORE, THE OPERATION WILL COMMENCE WITHOUT USING EVEN THE SLIGHTEST BIT OF ANESTHETIC.

THE POINT OF THIS SERIES OF OPERATIONS IS TO ACCENTUATE THE FEELING OF PAIN IN THE PATIENT.

AND THE NEXT DOSE OF MUSCLE RELAXANT SHALL BE FOR RUDOH.

AAAH!!

UGU!!

AND TWO DOSES FOR RUDOH, SO THAT HE DOES NOT PASS OUT.

I WANT TO SEE THE LOOK OF DESPAIR ON YOUR FACE.

DON'T PASS OUT ON ME, RUDOH.

UGEHHH!!

THUD

AND CANNOT CONTROL JACK GUNS AS HE'D LIKE TO.

IT'S SUMMONER, YUK., CANNOT CONCENTRATE GIVEN WHAT'S HAPPENING TO HIM.

DR. ZERO, I TOLD YOU, RIGHT?!

YOU FUCKING TOUCH MY SISTER AND I'LL FUCKING KILL YOU!!

WE'LL SURRENDER, SO PLEASE JUST FORGIVE MY BROTHER!!

PL-PLEASE STOP IT!!

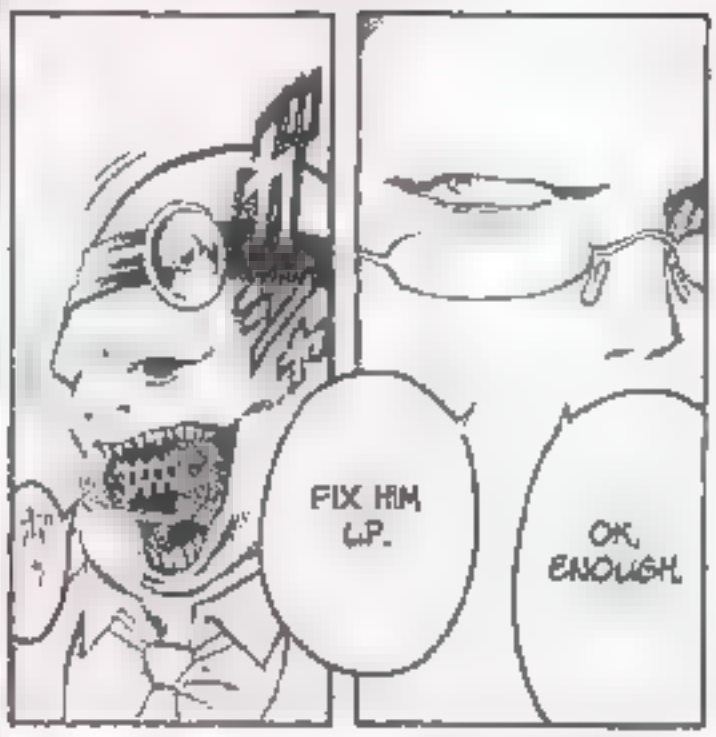
THE FUCK'S YOUR POINT?!

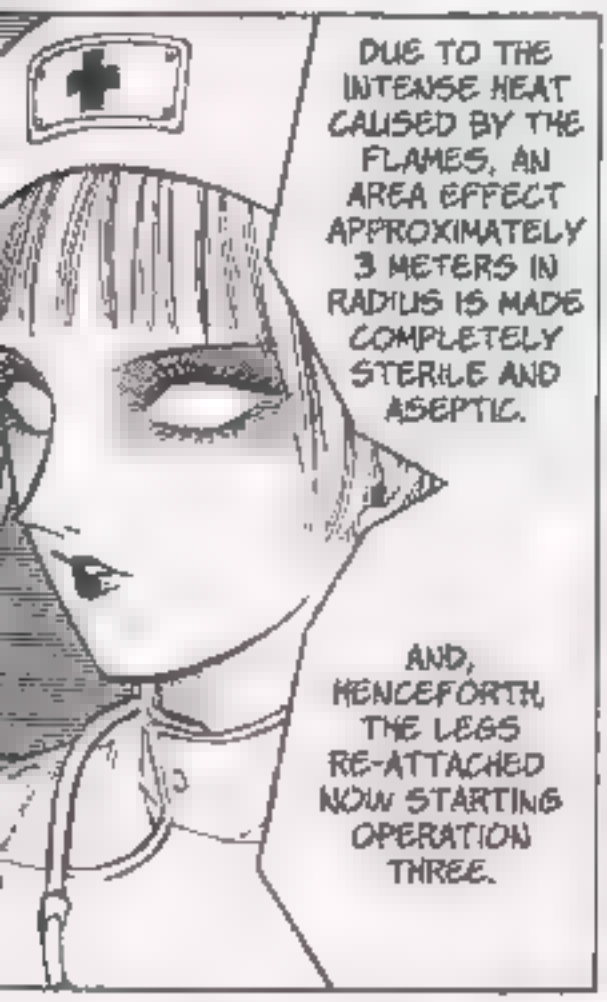
YOU HAVE SUCH A WONDERFUL SISTER.

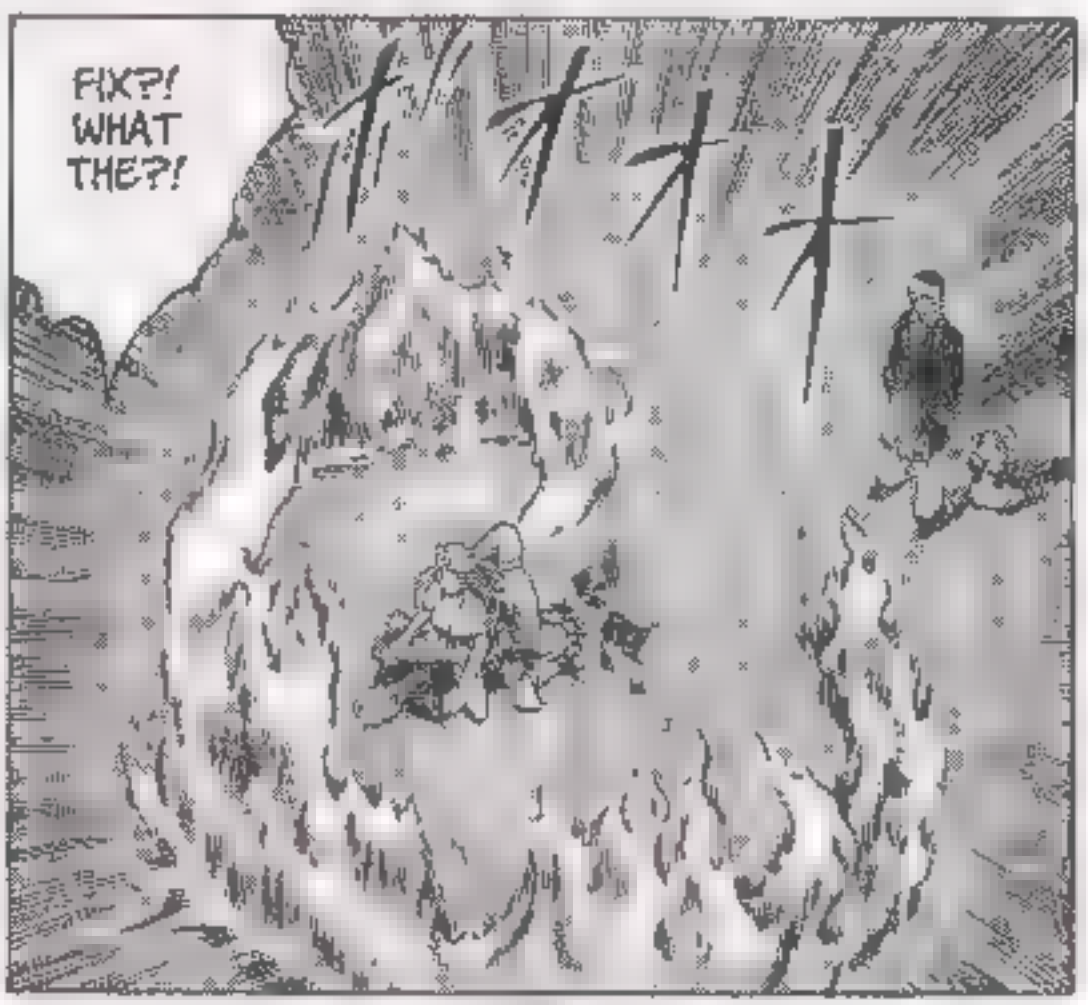
THE PAIN THAT MAYO HAS TO ENDURE IN BOTH HER LEGS—YOU WILL KNOW WHAT IT FEELS LIKE.

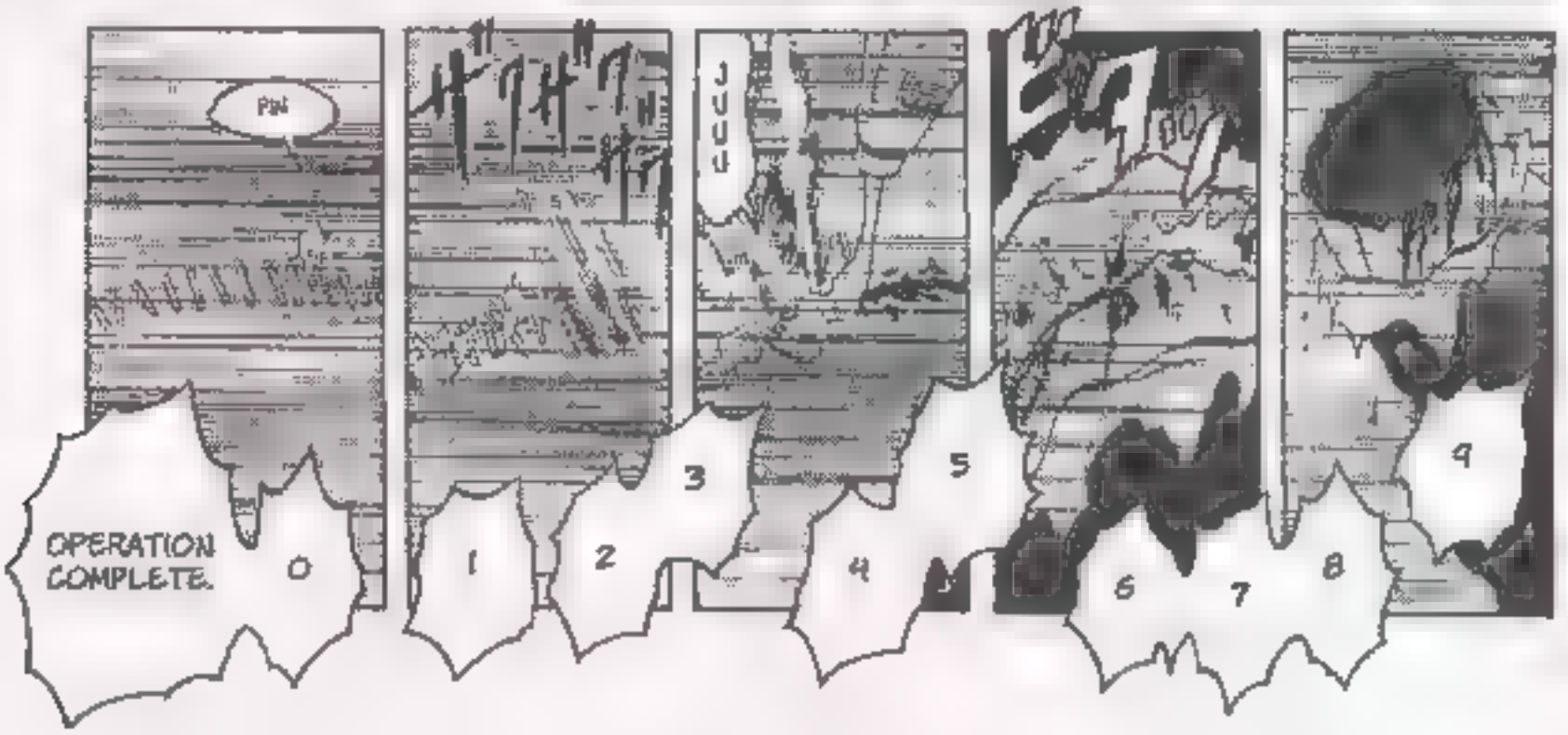
AND THAT'S WHY WE WANTED YOU TO KNOW HOW IT FEELS.

DOBOAAA


FIX HIM U.P.
OK, ENOUGH.


DUE TO THE INTENSE HEAT CAUSED BY THE FLAMES, AN AREA EFFECT APPROXIMATELY 3 METERS IN RADIUS IS MADE COMPLETELY STERILE AND ASEPTIC.
AND, HENCEFORTH, THE LEGS RE-ATTACHED NOW STARTING OPERATION THREE.


FIX?! WHAT THE?!


OPERATION COMPLETE.
0
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9

HOLD ON THERE— A LITTLE EARLY TO BE STANDING YET.

GIVE THEM A FEW MOMENTS, SO THEY MIGHT FULLY REGENERATE.

I-I CAN MOVE 'EM!

ｸﾘｵｵｵ

YOU MUST JOIN US, YUKI.

BY DOING SO, YOU GIVE ME A JUSTIFIABLE REASON TO FIX MAYO'S LEGS.

AND I'D LOVE NOTHING MORE THAN TO REPAIR THE LEGS OF THIS WONDERFUL YOUNG GIRL.

BUT HELPING THE ENEMY FOR NOTHING IS SOMETHING THAT RIRUKA WOULD LOOK UPON VERY UNFAVORABLY SO, THERE IS ONLY ONE WAY TO DO THIS.

DON'T BETRAY US.

YU-YUKI.

DON'T LET HIM TRICK YOU, YUKI!! IT'S A TRAP!

AND THE ONLY WAY TO DO THAT IS...

AND FOR THESE SINS YOU MUST ATONE.

YUKI, YOU KNOW THAT YOU HAVE KILLED TWO OF RIRUKA'S SERVANTS.

BUT SINCE YOU'LL NOW BE AFFILIATED WITH RIRUKA, YOU MUST PROVE YOUR LOYALTY

THEN, WE'RE EVEN!!

... KILL RUDOH, YUKI!!

?!

!!

.....!!

NO, YUKI. DON'T.

MY LEGS ARE FINE LIKE THIS.

ARE YOU LOOKING OVER HERE, YUKI...?

HE WHY.

OR PERHAPS YOU THOUGHT THAT REIKO'D HELP YOU OUT SOMEHOW?

DO YOU THINK IF YOU FINISH OFF RIRUKA MAYO'S LEGS WILL JUST HEAL THEMSELVES?

WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN AFTER THAT?!

YUKI!! LET'S JUST SAY THAT YOU AND REIKO DESTROY RIRUKA.

!!

I'M GOING TO GO SEE WHAT REIKO AND JASMINE ARE UP TO.

I'M NOT TRYING TO PRESSURE YOU INTO ANYTHING.

THINK ABOUT IT FOR A WHILE.

NOW'S YOUR CHANCE, YUKI!! AIM FOR HIS HEAD!!

CLICK

HE'S SHOWING HIS BACK!! YOU COULD SHOOT HIM RIGHT IN THE BACK OF THE HEAD, NO PROBLEMS, RIGHT NOW!!

BOOM

WHA—

NNNL.

YUKI ...?

I'M-I'M OUT...

SORRY, RUDOH.

SU

STOP

STOP

HE'S RIGHT — AIM FOR THE HEAD, YUKI.

YU-YU- COUGH

—!!

RUDOH MISHIMA: Deceased

ベキッ!!

GOD DAMMIT!!

HOW COULD HE JUST TURN AROUND AND DO HIS FRIENDS IN LIKE THAT?

I SERIOUSLY BELIEVED THAT YOU'D BE ABLE TO FIGHT THE TEMPTATION!!

AND NOW, I HAVE TO PAY DR. ZERO 5,000,000 YEN!!

BUT, MISS RIRUKA, WAS IT NOT YOU THAT SUGGESTED WE BET ON IT?

A BET?!

_ THE DIRTY BROTHER AND SISTER...

MAKE SURE THEY DIE.

OH, AND ...

BE RIGHT BACK -- GONNA GET SOME-THING COOL TO DRINK.

WELL, I SUPPOSE IT WAS WORTH IT IN FUN...

BUT I'M A LITTLE TIRED FROM STANDING AROUND FOREVER.

YOU -

YOU'VE GOTTA BE -

HEH

HEH

SORRY TO MAKE YOU SIT THROUGH ALL OF THIS, YUKI.

... AND, I GUESS THAT'S THAT

DO YOU THINK THAT I WOULD KEEP MY PROMISE WITH SOMEONE LIKE YOU, WHO'D STAB THEIR FRIENDS IN THE BACK GIVEN THE CHANCE?

ALL I HAVE TO DO IS PAT YOU ON THE HEAD A LITTLE, AND YOUR TAIL WAGS LIKE CRAZY -- FOOL!

DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH -- YOU'RE A "DOG."

"GOTTA BE"?

I'VE "GOTTA BE" WHAT? KIDDING?

!!

OUT OF AMMO, DOG.

CLICK

CLICK

WHAAARRR!!

WH—

AND FIRE...

BAKI

RELEASING FLAMMABLE GAS.

BUN

BURNER, ON.

YUKI SHALL BE INCINERATED AS A RESULT OF INTENSE HEAT

WHOAGAA!!

KA-BOOM!!!

KLAK!

MY GOD!! IT'S HOT!!

YOU'RE FUCKING DEAD!!

YUKI!!

GLORFF

COFF

LOOKS LIKE RUDOH LEFT BEHIND A NICE LITTLE PARTING GIFT

ROBIN'S SWORD.

IT'S THE PERFECT PUNISHMENT FOR SELLING HIM OUT!!

UGAAH!!

... PUNISHMENT FOR TRIFLING WITH ME!!

HAA HAA

AND, NEXT...

BUT NOW I CAN TAKE MY TIME KILLING YOU!!

IF HE HAD HIS GUN NOW, HE COULD HAVE KILLED ME.

HAVING JACK THROW HIS WEAPON WAS A BIG MISTAKE ON YOUR PART.

WHADDAYA THINK, DOG-BOY? HOW DOES IT FEEL?!

ONCE YOU'RE DEAD, IT'LL BE YOUR SISTER'S TURN.

BUT BEFORE I KILL HER, I'M GONNA HAVE SOME FUN WITH HER.

WHAT'S WRONG, DOGGY? SAY SOMETHING!!

SEE YOU IN HELL, FUCKSTICK

WHAM

LOOK, LOOK! EVERYONE'S DEAD!

AH! REIKO!!

YUKI — MY BROTHER!! THE BAD GUYS SAID THAT THEY WOULD FIX MY LEGS, AND SO HE KILLED RUDOH.

BUT THEY WERE LYING TO HIM. SO HE GOT REALLY MAD!

SO, MY BROTHER DID ALL THIS!

KUSU KUSU

MY BROTHER... HE'S DEAD! U-HUHUHL

AND ONLY 15 MINUTES HAVE PASSED SINCE THEY ENTERED THE MANSION.

RUDOH MISHIMA AND YUKI TOHDOH.

BOTH DEAD.

CONTINUED

NEKOGAMI

the ZOMBIE SHOP GALLERY

YUKA MARUYAMA • AGE 14
CHIBA PREFECTURE, JAPAN
YOU REALLY CAPTURED REIKO'S NECK PERFECTLY!

SAYA HIRATA • AGE 12
CHIBA PREFECTURE, JAPAN
TWO TOTALLY DIFFERENT EXPRESSIONS!

YUKI TAKESHITA • AGE 15
SAPORO, JAPAN
YOUR USE OF COLOR WAS AMAZING! IT'S A SHAME THAT YOU CAN'T SEE IT IN BLACK-AND-WHITE...

GOT A PIECE OF ART TO SUBMIT TO THE ZOMBIE SHOP GALLERY? SEND IT TO:

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Milwaukie, OR 97222 • U.S.A.

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STOP

THIS IS THE BACK OF THE BOOK

This manga collection is translated into English but oriented in right-to-left reading format at the creator's request, maintaining the artwork's visual orientation as originally published in Japan. If you've never read manga in this way before, take a look at the diagram below to give yourself an idea of how to go about it. Basically, you'll be starting in the upper right corner and will read each balloon and panel moving right to left. It may take some getting used to, but you should get the hang of it very quickly. Have fun!